



DEADMAN AND

15¢



NO. 74

JULY

CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



MAYBE YOU KNOW MY NAME... MAYBE YOU DON'T... IN ANY CASE, I HAVE A TALE TO TELL-- ABOUT THE THIN LINE BETWEEN THE NATURAL AND THE SUPERNATURAL... A LINE AS HARD TO PIN DOWN AS A HOARSE WHISPER IN THE NIGHT... AND AS IMPORTANT AS ETERNITY ITSELF! LEAVE YOUR WORLD BEHIND NOW, AND ENTER *MINE*... THE REALM OF THE SPIRIT... AND PREPARE...

"TO CALL A DEADMAN"



STORY: DENNY O'NEIL
ART: GEORGE TUSKA
NEAL ADAMS

8-521

THE DYING MOMENTS OF THE NIGHT... A STOOPED FIGURE TRUDGES WEARILY UP AN OVERGROWN PATH TO AN ANCIENT, CRUMBLING TOWER...



I... I'M HERE! I HAVE IT... WHAT YOU WANTED!



TAKE THE BAG, NODO! LOOK INSIDE...

EH--HEE HEE
HYEE, MASTER!

I AM NOT LYING... IT'S *THERE*, I TELL YOU!



AHHH... THE RUBY OF KHAFIR! QUITE PRETTY...

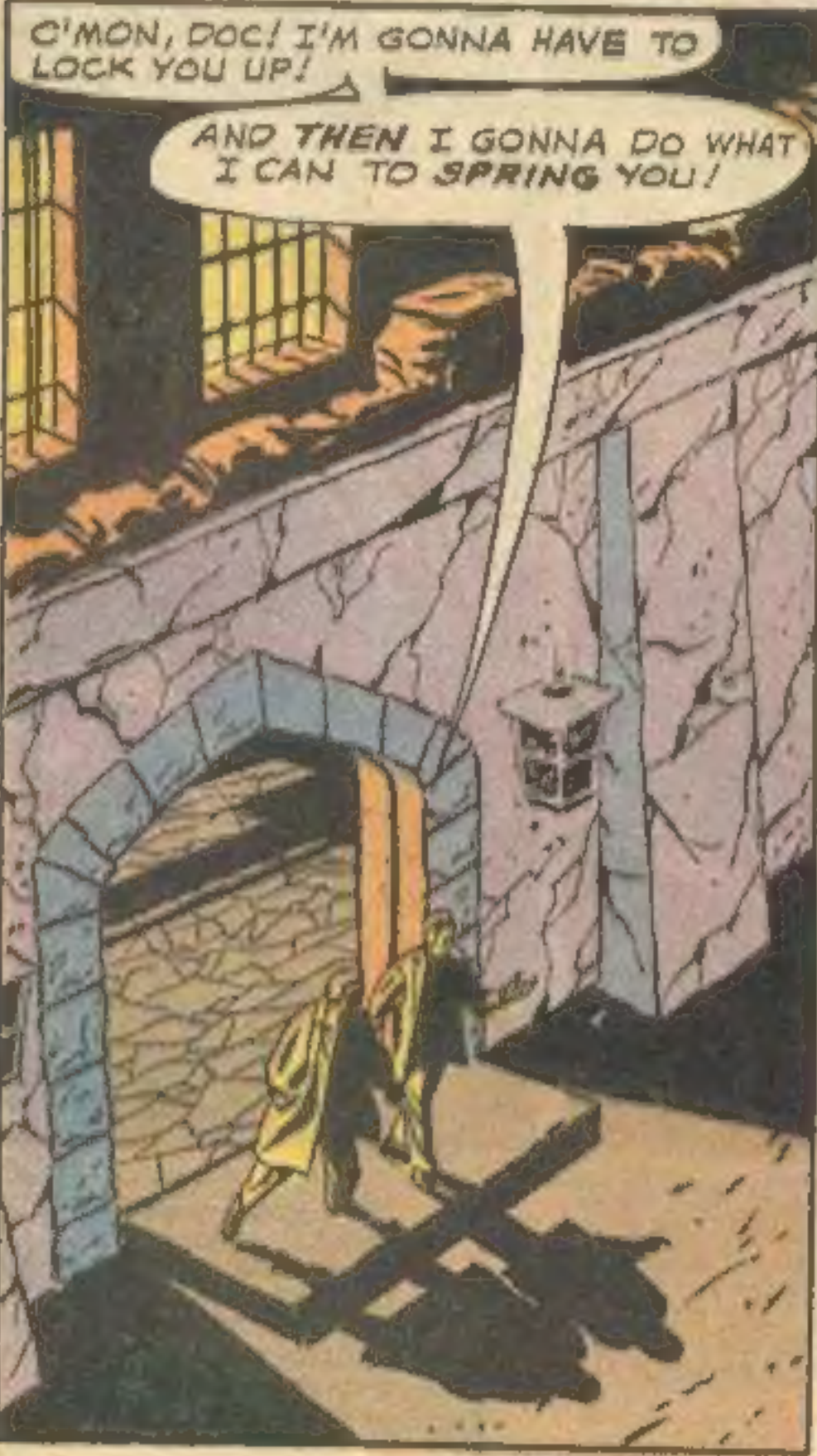
HEE...
HEEE--
HEE!

DOCTOR Mc JAMES... YOU HEAR ME?



CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN, No. 74, June-July, 1970. Published bi-monthly by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd & Dickey Sts., Sparta, Ill. 62286. EDITORIAL, EXECUTIVE OFFICES, 909 THIRD AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022. Murray Boltinoff, Editor. Carmine Infantino, Editorial Director. Second Class Postage Paid at Sparta, Ill. under the act of March 3, 1879. No subscriptions. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 41 E. 42nd St., New York, N.Y. 10017. Copyright © National Periodical Publications, Inc., 1970. All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred.

"This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition, nor affixed to, nor as part of any advertising, literary or pictorial matter whatsoever." Printed in U.S.A.





AN' ANY BUM AS *HASSLES* ME 'BOUT IT IS GONNA GIT FRACTURED--

COOL IT, YOU TWO! WE HAVE COMPANY--



JONNY DOUBLE, MEET CORINNA STARK, RED RYAN, ROCKY DAVIS AND PROF HALEY!

CHARMED, I'M SURE! NOW THAT WE FINISHED BEING POLITE, I'D LIKE YOU PEOPLE TO HEAR A PROBLEM--



QUICKLY, THE DETECTIVE TELLS THE CHALLS ABOUT DOCTOR Mc JAMES... AND THE MYSTERIOUS TOWER...

WHAT I'M SAYING IS, IT DOESN'T *FIGURE!* Mc JAMES IS ONE OF THE MOST RESPECTED SCIENTISTS IN THE COUNTRY--

-- AND A MAN LIKE HIM JUST PLAIN *DOESN'T* STEAL FROM THE MUSEUM THAT EMPLOYS HIM!



THAT'S NOT ALL... I'M SURE I HEARD HIM RAPPING WITH SOMEBODY... BUT WHEN I GOT THERE, HE WAS ALONE!

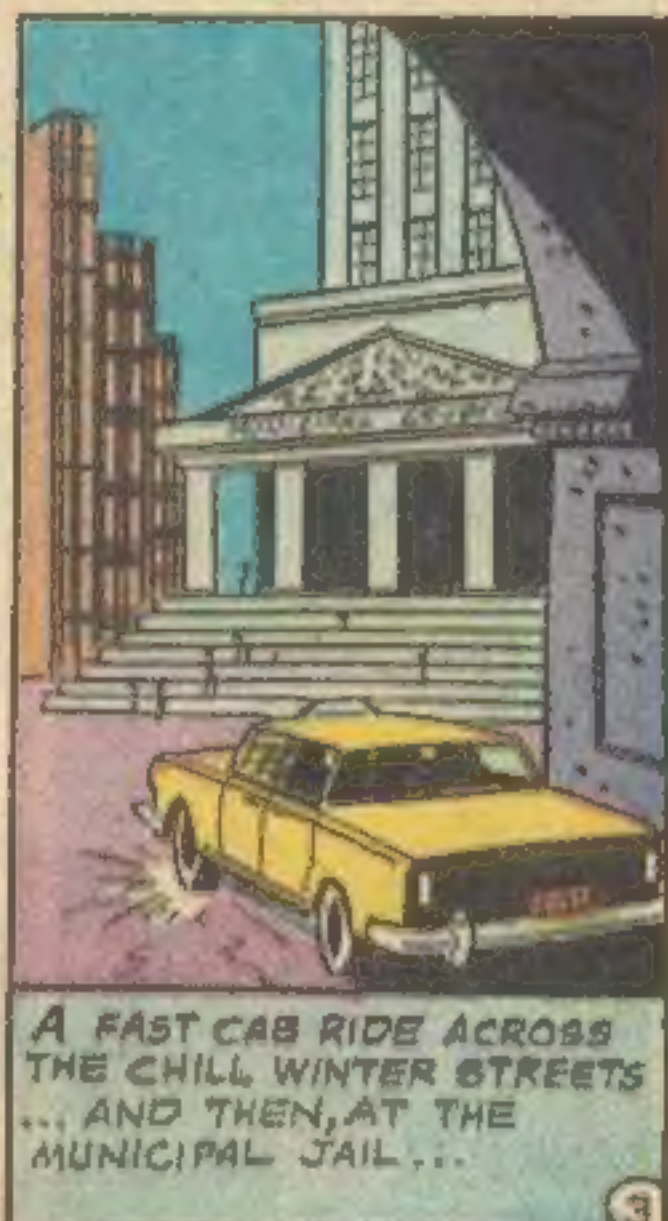
I'VE GOT A SNEAKY HUNCH THERE'S MORE TO THIS THAN A PRIVATE EYE CAN HANDLE...

IT'S LIKE... THE UNKNOWN! AND THAT IS YOUR DEPARTMENT!



MY PALS DOWN AT THE CITY LOCK-UP SAY IT'S OKAY FOR YOU TO QUESTION Mc JAMES! SO... HOW ABOUT IT?

WE'RE ON OUR WAY!



A FAST CAB RIDE ACROSS THE CHILL WINTER STREETS... AND THEN, AT THE MUNICIPAL JAIL...



I'M SORRY! YOUR JOURNEY WAS FOR NOTHING... I'M GUILTY-- AND THERE IS NO MORE TO SAY!

I'M AFRAID I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT, SIR! YOU'RE FRIGHTENED--



RELAX... RELAX... LET YOURSELF GO... LET YOURSELF SLEEP...

FOR A LONG MINUTE, CORINNA STARK'S PLEASANT VOICE DRONES ON AND ON... UNTIL, AT LAST...



I WASN'T AWARE YOU COUNTED HYPNOSIS AMONG YOUR TALENTS, CORINNA!

I CALL IT A LOUSY TRICK... MESSIN' WITH A GUY'S MIND WITHOUT ASKIN' HIS PERMISSION!

I HAD TO... HE WOULDN'T CONSENT-- AND I SENSE THAT HE'S IN DEEP TROUBLE!

BUTTON YER YAP, RYAN-- 'FORE I BRUISE YA!



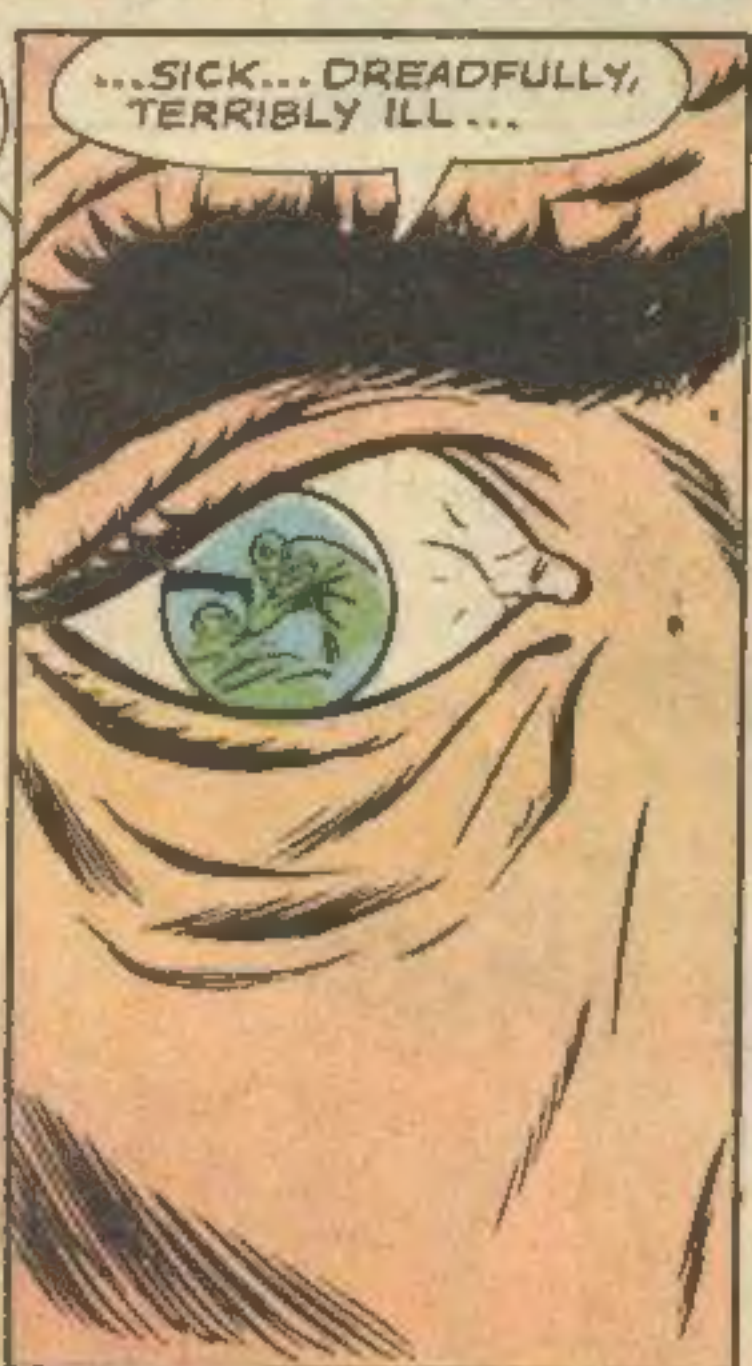
QUIET... BOTH OF YOU! CORINNA'S RIGHT-- IT WAS THE ONLY WAY!

DOCTOR MC JAMES... LISTEN TO ME! I'M YOUR FRIEND... WE'RE ALL YOUR FRIENDS...



...SPEAK TO US... OPEN YOUR HEART...

SIX MONTHS AGO... MY DAUGHTER... MY BELOVED CHILD...



...SICK... DREADFULLY, TERRIBLY ILL...



...DOCTORS TRIED TO SAVE HER LIFE... BUT FAILED--! AND GRIEF FILLED MY WORLD--

Tuff!

YOU BET THEY ARE



INTRODUCING THE TUFF ONES
FROM AURORA THE FASTEST,
BEST PERFORMING HO RACING
CARS EVER —

Now you can race the fastest HO cars in the world. Aurora's new TUFF ONES are track-tested at 760 scale m.p.h. They corner like no other HO cars you've ever seen. THE TUFF ONES are fully-decorated with racing stripes. Get the Chapparral 2F, the Ford GT, the Cheetah, the Lola, the Dune Buggy and the Gasser. They're real winners.

The World's Largest Manufacturer
of Hobby Products

®AURORA PLASTIC CORP.,
WEST HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. 11552

AURORA
MODEL MOTORING

I'M SORRY, DOCTOR
MC JAMES! I DID
EVERYTHING HUMANLY
POSSIBLE --

I KNOW... I KNOW...
JUST--LEAVE
ME...

"THEN, THROUGH A BLUR OF TEARS, I SAW
A SHAPE MATERIALIZE ABOVE THE BED...
A DIM, WRAITHLIKE FIGURE OF--"

--MY DAUGHTER!
NO... NO! THIS IS
SOME CRUEL
JOKE!

DADDY... DADDY... SOMETHING
IS HOLDING ME...
I AM DEAD... YET I AM
FORCED TO REMAIN--



THEN, ANOTHER WRAITH
APPEARED..."

I AM HOLDING
YOU, MY DEAR!
AND I SHALL
CONTINUE
TO DO SO...

WHO...
WHAT...
CAN THIS
BE--?

I AM THE GHOST OF SETH
GROSS! RECOGNIZE THE
NAME, DEAR MORTAL--?
WELL, YOU SHOULD...

...FOR IT WAS YOUR
ANCESTOR WHO CONDEMNED
ME TO HANG--FOR A CRIME
OF WHICH I WAS INNOCENT!

WHAT DO
YOU
WANT?

A PAYMENT OF
REVENGE! I SHALL
GIVE YOU TASKS--
AND YOU SHALL
PERFORM
THEM!

AND IF
I
REFUSE?



IF YOU REFUSE... I SHALL NEVER PERMIT YOUR DAUGHTER'S SPIRIT TO JOURNEY TO THAT PLACE OF ETERNAL PEACE... EVERLASTING JOY...

BEHOLD! I IMPRISON HER WITHIN THIS EBONY BOX, AND THERE SHE SHALL REMAIN-- UNTIL YOU SATISFY ME!

HOW--? WHAT DO YOU REQUIRE?

STEAL THE MUSEUM'S GEM COLLECTION--THE RUBY OF KHAFIR AND THE REST...

BUT... I AM AN HONEST MAN! THAT IS MY PRIDE... MY HONESTY--!

OBEY... OR KNOW THAT YOUR CHILD SHALL SUFFER UNSPEAKABLE TORMENTS!

BUT I'M HONEST... HONEST... HONEST...

IT'S ALL RIGHT, SIR--! IT'S OVER!

BRING HIM OUT OF IT! CAN'T YOU SEE THE POOR GUY'S SUFFERIN'?!?

BUT IT'S NOT OVER... NOT UNTIL WE FREE THAT GIRL! BUT HOW?

OBVIOUSLY, WE SHOULD BEGIN AT THE TOWER! MR. DOUBLE CAN GUIDE US THERE!

SURE... THAT'S NO SWEAT!

YOU SURE YOU WANNA GET MIXED IN THIS? I MEAN... GHOSTS... THAT'S A PRETTY HEAVY TRIP--



n.p.p. presents: **THE NEW!**
THE DIFFERENT!
A G.I. YOU'LL NEVER FORGET!
THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER!



AS EVENING FOLDS THE WINTERY CITY IN SHADOW, A COLORFUL CREW ASSEMBLES AT THE PLUSH PENTHOUSE OF ACE MORGAN...



JONNY DOUBLE WAS CALLED OUT OF TOWN... BUT HE GAVE ME VERY CLEAR DIRECTIONS!



THEN LET US BE ON OUR WAY!

UH... PROF... I THINK MAYBE YOU'D BETTER NOT COME! YOU HAVEN'T COMPLETELY RECOVERED FROM YOUR SICKNESS...



... AND, WELL, THINGS MIGHT GET ROUGH!

WHAT ABOUT HER?

-- WHAT ABOUT MISS STARK? SHE AIN'T NO HEAP OF MUSCLES, EITHER!

AN' AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, SHE'S NOT EVEN A CHALLENGER!

I SIMPLY CAN'T UNDERSTAND YOUR DISLIKE OF ME, RED!



NOR CAN I! CORINNA'S PROVEN HERSELF AGAIN AND AGAIN--

-- AND ON THIS ASSIGNMENT, HER KNOWLEDGE OF THE OCCULT COULD BE INVALUABLE!

OKAY! OKAY! YOU'RE THE LEADER-MAN!



MIND THE STORE, PROF! WE'LL TELL YA ALL 'BOUT IT!

I'LL BE WAITING, ROCKY--

-- BECAUSE THAT IS ALL I'M GOOD FOR-- WAITING...



... WAITING... USELESSLY!

AS THE CHALLENGERS NEAR THEIR DESTINATION, THE NIGHT SEEMS TO DEEPEN... DARKNESS WRAPS ITSELF AROUND THE SPEEDING AUTOMOBILE LIKE A GARGANTUAN SHROUD...

IT SHOULDN'T BE MORE THAN A COUPLE OF MILES MORE!

HEY, LEADER-MAN HOW ABOUT WE HOLD A WAR CONFERENCE--

--LIKE, I DON'T HAVE A GLIMMER ABOUT WHAT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO DO!

I'M NOT ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN... BUT FROM DOCTOR MC JAMES' DESCRIPTION...

... HIS DAUGHTER'S SPIRIT IS LOCKED IN A BOX. A THING WE CAN HOLD, TOUGH...

IF WE CAN ONLY GET IT, I KNOW A MYSTIC INCANTATION THAT WILL RELEASE THE GHOST OF THE LITTLE GIRL!

AND YOU THINK THE BOX IS AT THE TOWER, CORINNA?

IT MUST BE, ACE!

SPEAKING OF THE TOWER, THERE IT IS!

IT AIN'T EXACTLY NO PLAYBOY PAD!

WHAT'D YOU EXPECT, ROCK? WHEN YOU'RE THIS OLD, YOU WON'T BE KING OF THE BALL, EITHER!

WE'D BETTER HAVE A LOOK AROUND BEFORE WE BARGE IN!

THAT LOOKS LIKE
A... GALLOWES!

THE WRAITH--SETH
GROSS-- TOLD
MCJAMES HE
WAS HANGED! I
WONDER...

ACE... **L-LOOK!**

WELCOME... TO MY PRISON... TO MY
SCAFFOLD... WILL YOU JOIN
ME UP HERE?



I SAW IT, TOO...
FOR AN INSTANT!
THEN... **VANISHED!**

YEAH...MY SPINE
FEELS LIKE AN
ICICLE!

HORRIBLE...
HIDEOUS!

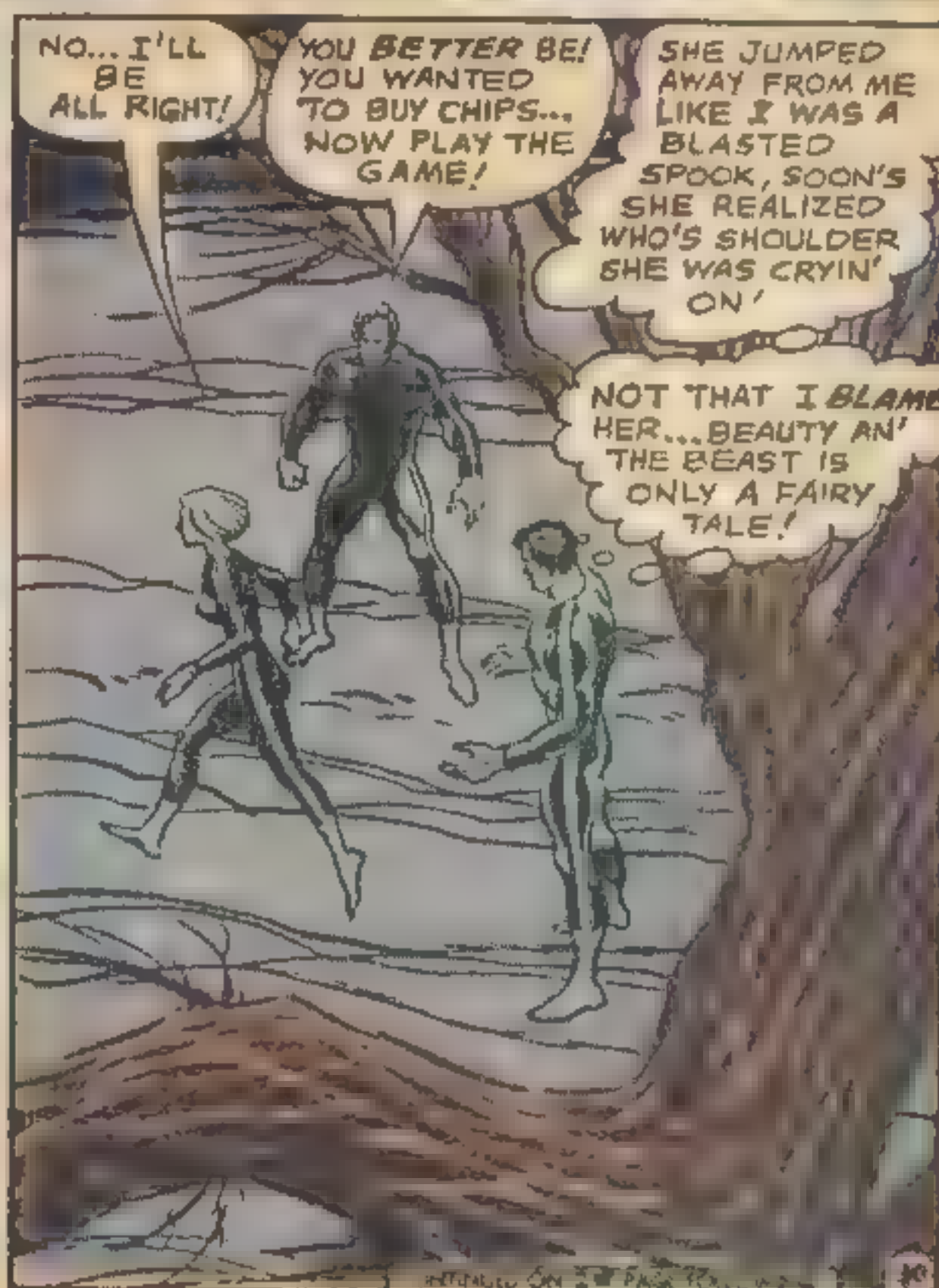
I'LL TAKE
YA BACK
TO THE
CAR!

NO... I'LL
BE
ALL RIGHT!

YOU BETTER BE!
YOU WANTED
TO BUY CHIPS...
NOW PLAY THE
GAME!

SHE JUMPED
AWAY FROM ME
LIKE I WAS A
BLASTED
SPOOK, SOON'S
SHE REALIZED
WHO'S SHOULDER
SHE WAS CRYIN'
ON!

NOT THAT I **BLAME**
HER... BEAUTY AN'
THE BEAST IS
ONLY A FAIRY
TALE!





ADMIT ONE (1) TO
PALISADES
AMUSEMENT PARK

ADMISSION **FREE** PARKING

GOOD MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAYS
WORTH \$1.10 (EXCEPT HOLIDAYS) UNTIL 7PM.

PALISADES AMUSEMENT PARK N.J.

1/2 MILE SOUTH OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE



COMICS IN
MAY THROUGH
OCTOBER HAVE
THE



COUPON!

Free Ride
Space Rocket

Free Ride
Caterpillar

Blow Your Mind With the Greatest Game of All!

Yes... Now YOU Manage All 26 Major League Teams!



Baseball Fans Have Gone WILD About BE A MANAGER!

"I have had the game for three years and enjoy playing it."
- D.G., Illinois

"We have set up a four-team league around my house, where we have just completed a forty game schedule."
- G.H., New York

"The game has been the best I have ever played. It has made my dream come true. I know 100 people who have it."
- A.S., Texas

"BE A MANAGER is definitely the most enjoyable, accurate baseball game ever manufactured. Some friends of mine played it with me and I bought one."
- R.F., New Jersey

YOU Decide On the Line-Ups ... YOU Plot the Strategy, Control the Pitching, Batting, Running. You Decide How You Want Your Outfield Played, Tell Your Men When To Hit, Run, Steal. Yes - Now YOU Manage the Big Leagues!

Imagine the excitement of a World Series playoff and you'll get just the slightest idea of the THRILL of playing **BE A MANAGER!** You'll be caught up in baseball as never before...because **YOU** are the manager! You have real control over all 400 big league players - who actually bat, field, run, pitch according to their playing abilities.

HITTING, FIELDING, RUNNING AS IN REAL LIFE!

With **YOU** planning strategy, deciding on pinch-hitters, ordering defensive moves - you've still got to be crafty, because every man on your team plays exactly according to his real life quality. He makes errors you've got to watch out for. He may go into a sudden slump and you've got to get him out. He may rush into a red-hot hitting streak you've got to take advantage of; he may become a hero - at the wrong time!

KNOW 400 PLAYERS!

Yes, you'll get to know 400 real life players - on all 26 big league teams - better than anybody in your neighborhood! Because as a **MANAGER** you've got all the statistics at your fingertips - every man's hits, runs, stolen bases, batting record, etc. With this exciting real knowledge, it is possible for **YOU**, the manager, to

achieve thrilling victories even with a weak team.

GET THE BIG STORY!

Remember: It's always **YOUR** skill, knowledge, foresight and courage that wins games. Now... **BE A MANAGER!** Find out all the facts about this greatest of all games - the original, official game... plus you get **THREE FREE GIFTS** when you mail the coupon. Do it today!



BE A MANAGER, Dept. N470
PO Box 98, Springfield Gardens Stn, Jamaica N.Y. 11413

I want to know all about BE A MANAGER; please send me all the exciting details plus **THREE FREE GIFTS**... (1) Player Card (2) 7 All-Time Baseball Oddities (3) Proposed Roster for 1970 Big League Teams. I enclose 10¢ to cover postage and handling.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

SUDDENLY, WITHOUT WARNING, A SHRILL LAUGH
RENDS THE FROSTY AIR... A GROTESQUE SHAPE
SWINGS DOWN WITH THE FORCE OF A WRECKING
BALL--!

HEEEEEE--
HEE-HEE

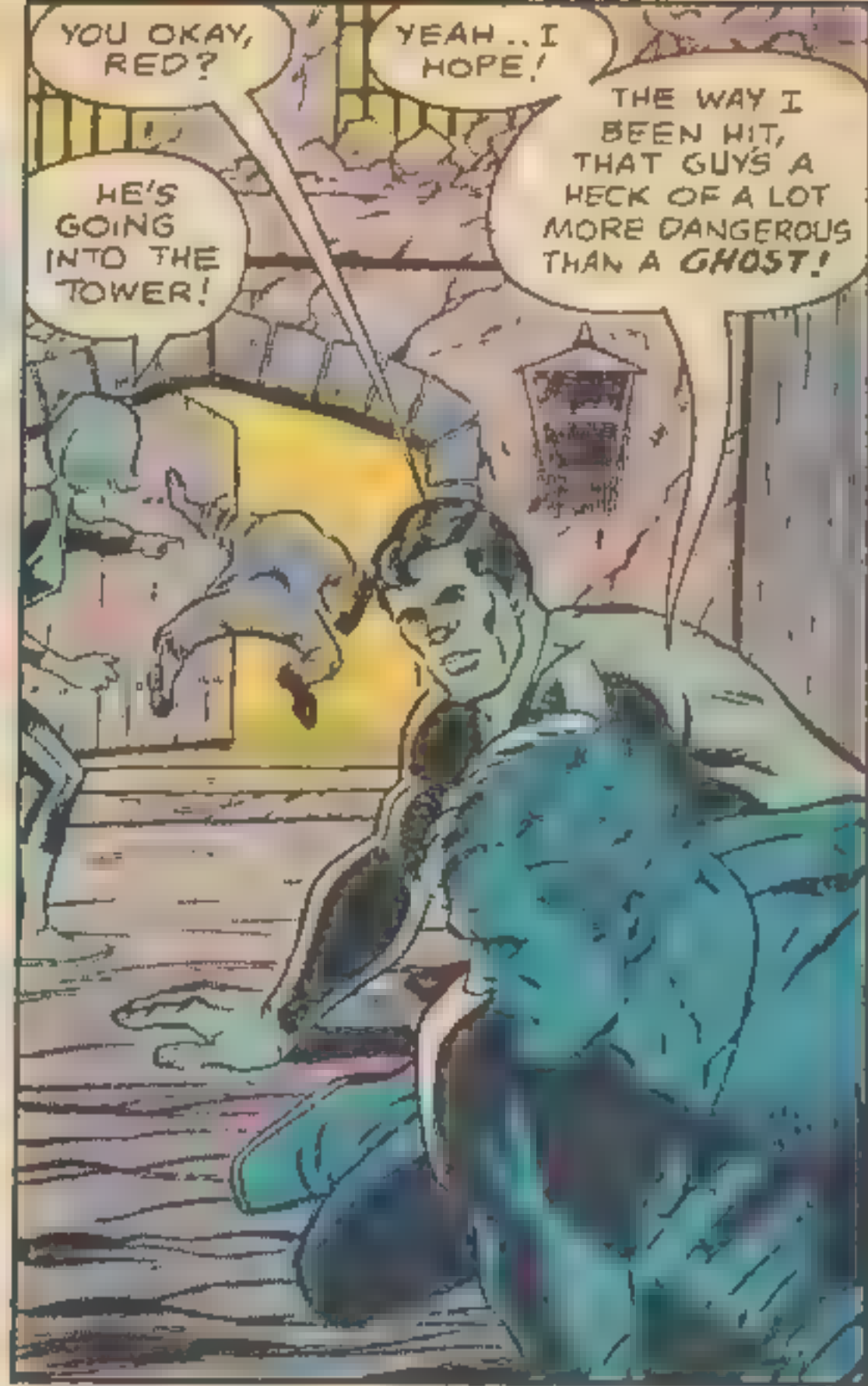


YOU OKAY,
RED?

YEAH.. I
HOPE!

HE'S
GOING
INTO THE
TOWER!

THE WAY I
BEEN HIT,
THAT GUY'S A
HECK OF A LOT
MORE DANGEROUS
THAN A GHOST!





WHERE'D HE GO?

IT'S SO DARK...

WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST--! STICK TOGETHER!

DON'T WORRY...IN A JOINT LIKE THIS, I'M REAL HAPPY TO HAVE COMPANY!



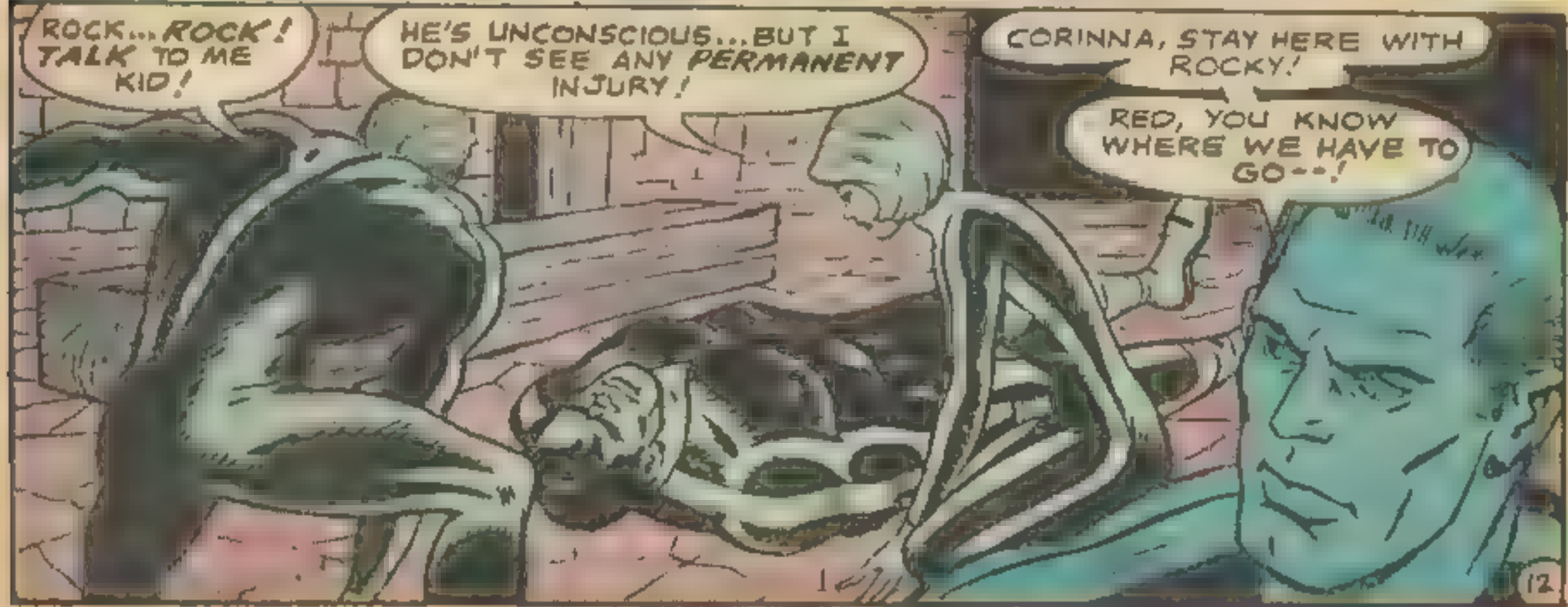
EVERYBODY! WATCH OUT--!



WITH UNBELIEVABLE SPEED, ROCKY HURLS HIS BULK INTO THE PLUMMETING BEAM..

BUNNKK!

...DEFLECTING IT...BY MERE INCHES-- FROM ITS TARGETS!



ROCK...ROCK! TALK TO ME KID!

HE'S UNCONSCIOUS...BUT I DON'T SEE ANY PERMANENT INJURY!

CORINNA, STAY HERE WITH ROCKY!

RED, YOU KNOW WHERE WE HAVE TO GO--!

YEAH. *UP THERE!*
YOU TAKE THE LADDER,
LEADER OF M NE...

..WHILE I'M
TAK N' THE
EXPRESS!

BE CAREFUL--
WE CAN'T
AFFORD TO BE
RECKLESS!

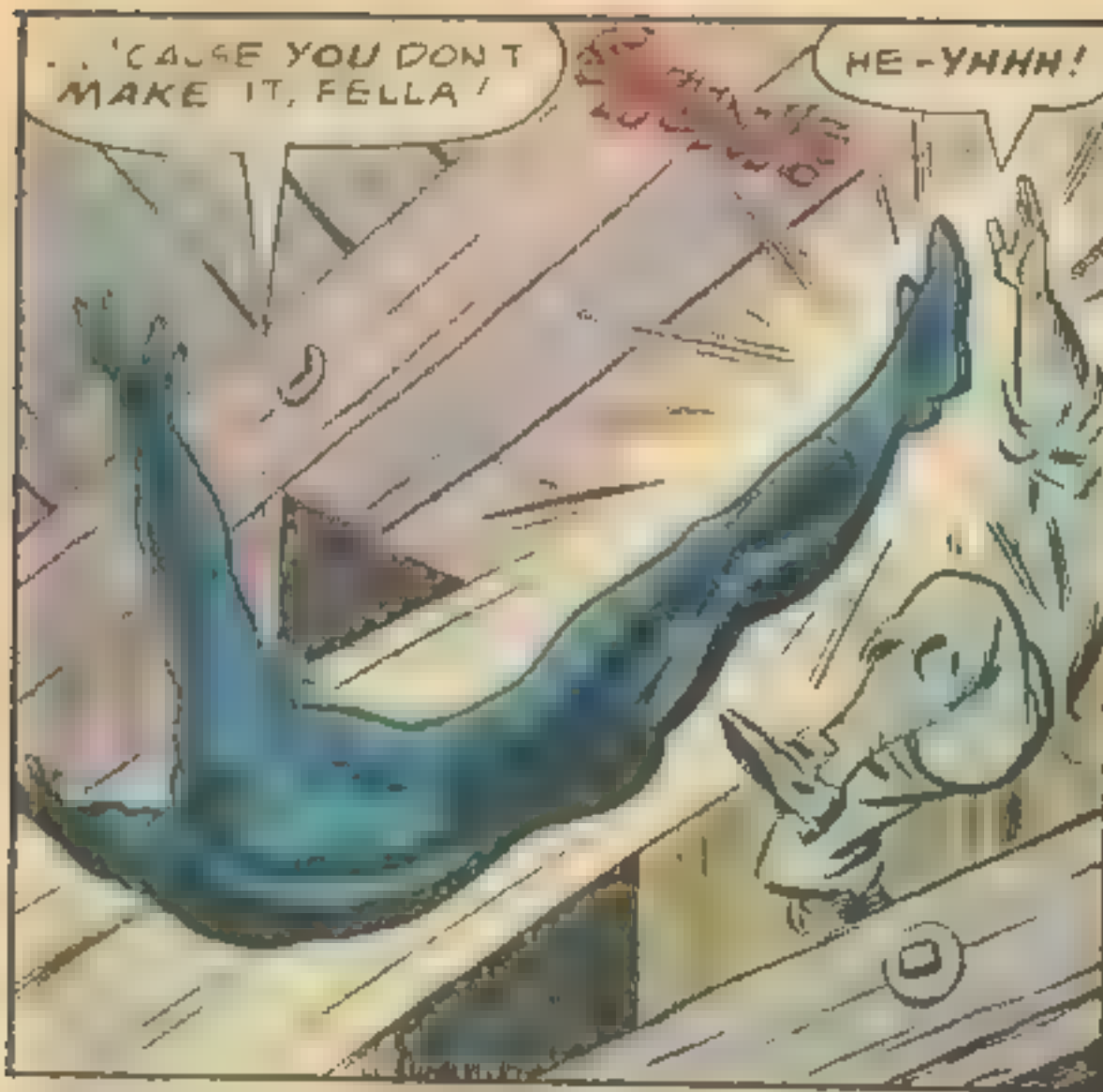
THIS IS LIKE
OLD HOME
WEEK TO
ME!

SO WHO'S
RECKLESS? I
WAS FLYIN' AROUND
THE TOPS OF CIRCUS
TENTS BEFORE I WAS
FIVE YEARS OLD!

DARKER'N A BAT'S
BELLY.../ THAT PLUG-
UGLY COULD BE
BREATHIN' DOWN MY
NECK AND I'D
NEVER KNOW...

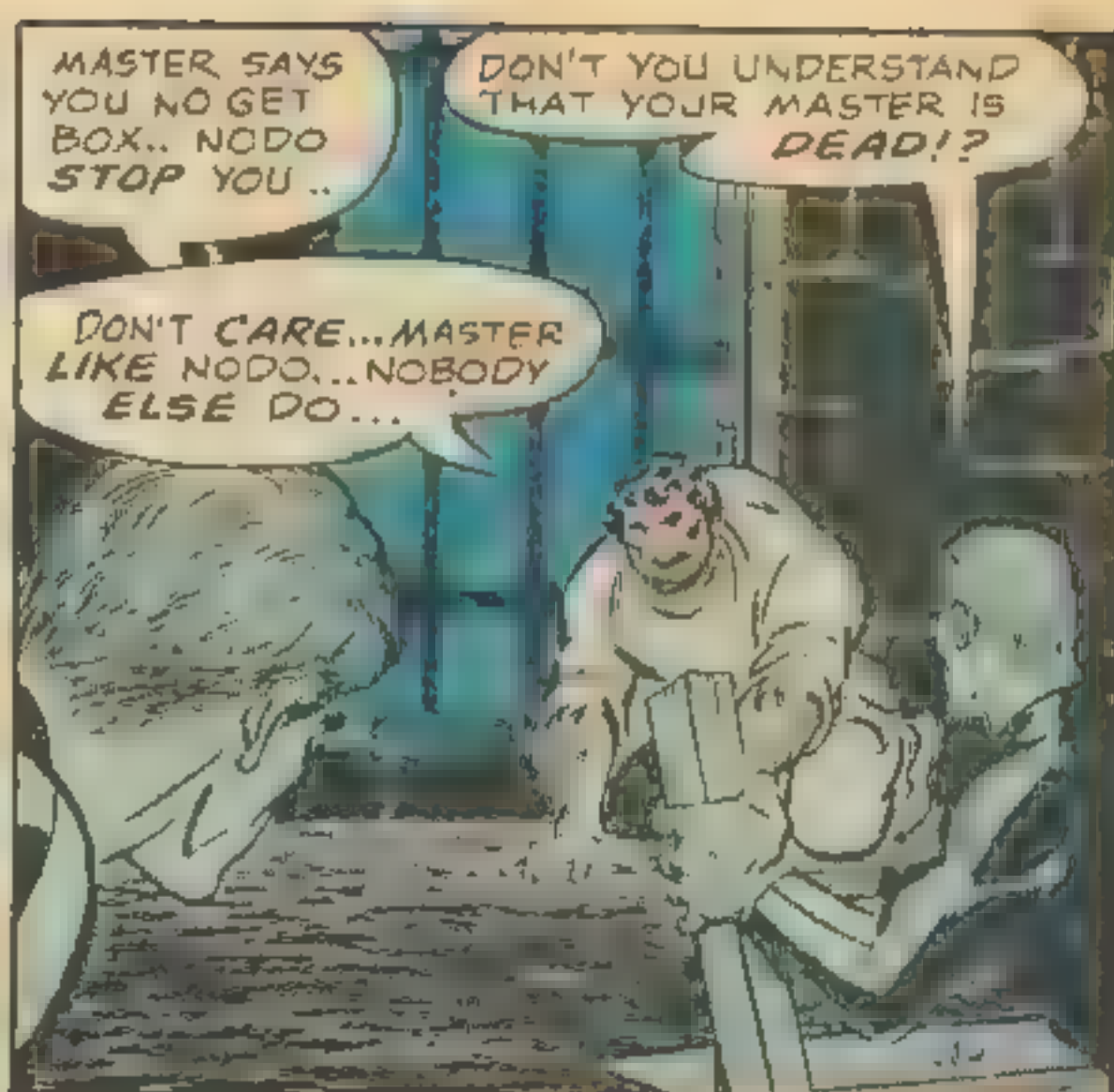
HEEE HEEE. NODO
SERVES THE *MASTER!*
-- *MASTER SETH!*

IN *THAT* CASE,
SETH OUGHTTA GET
HIMSELF SOME NEW
HELP..



... 'CAUSE YOU DONT MAKE IT, FELLA!

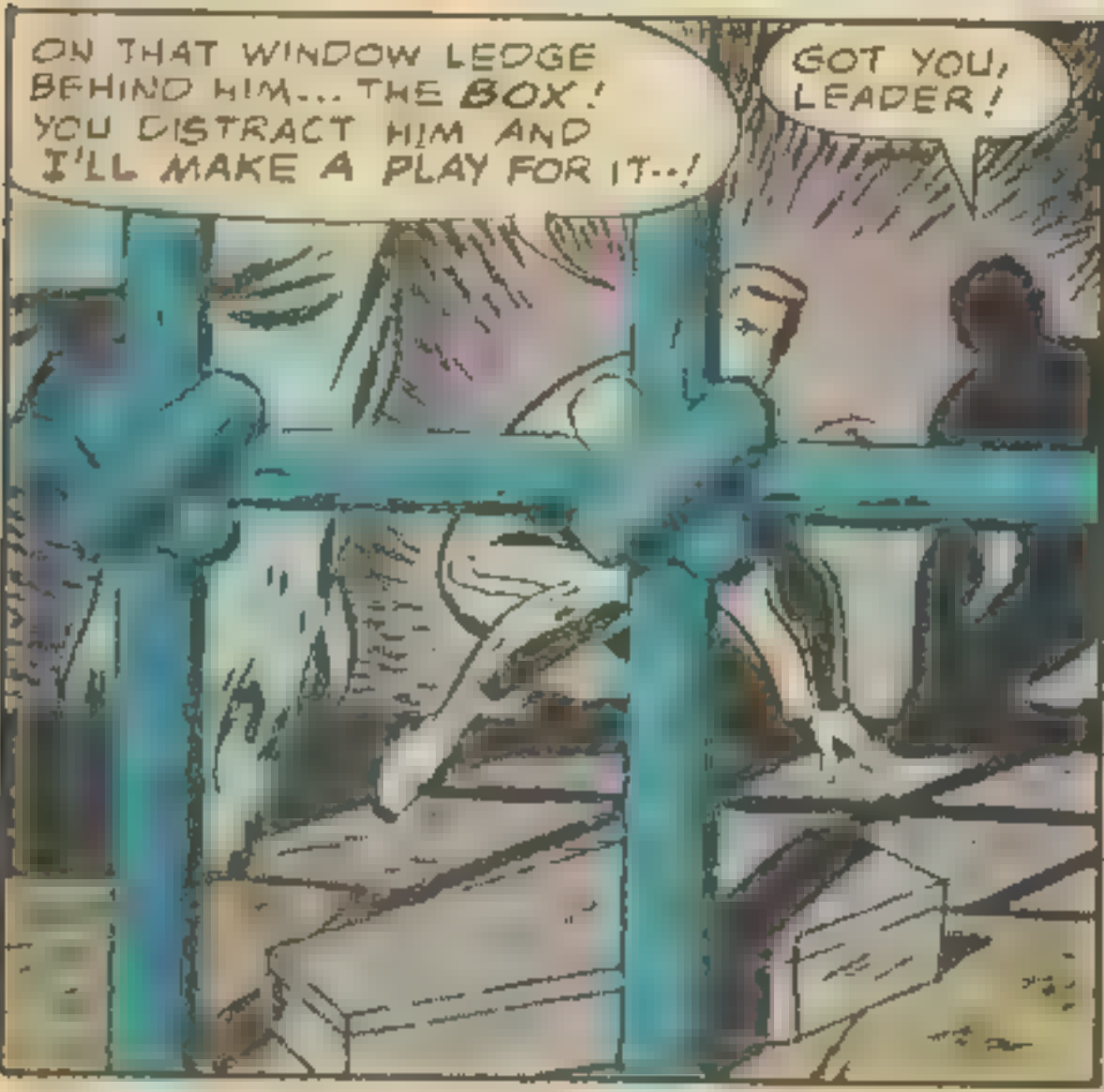
HE-YHHH!



MASTER SAYS YOU NO GET BOX.. NODO STOP YOU ..

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR MASTER IS DEAD!?

DON'T CARE...MASTER LIKE NODO...NOBODY ELSE DO...



ON THAT WINDOW LEDGE BEHIND HIM... THE BOX! YOU DISTRACT HIM AND I'LL MAKE A PLAY FOR IT...!

GOT YOU, LEADER!



C'MON, NODO BABY--! WANNA HAVE A HOT GAME'A TAG?!



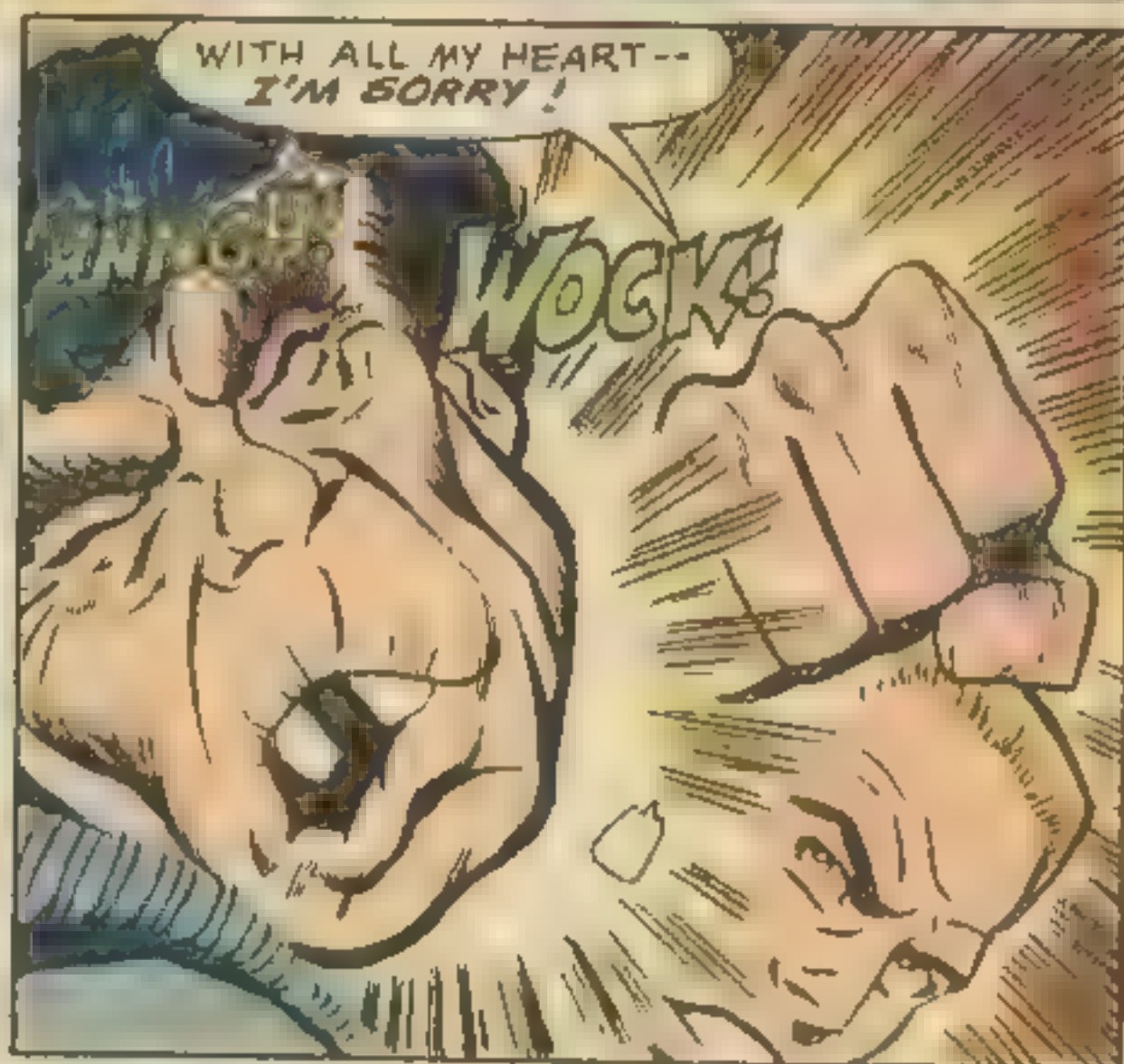
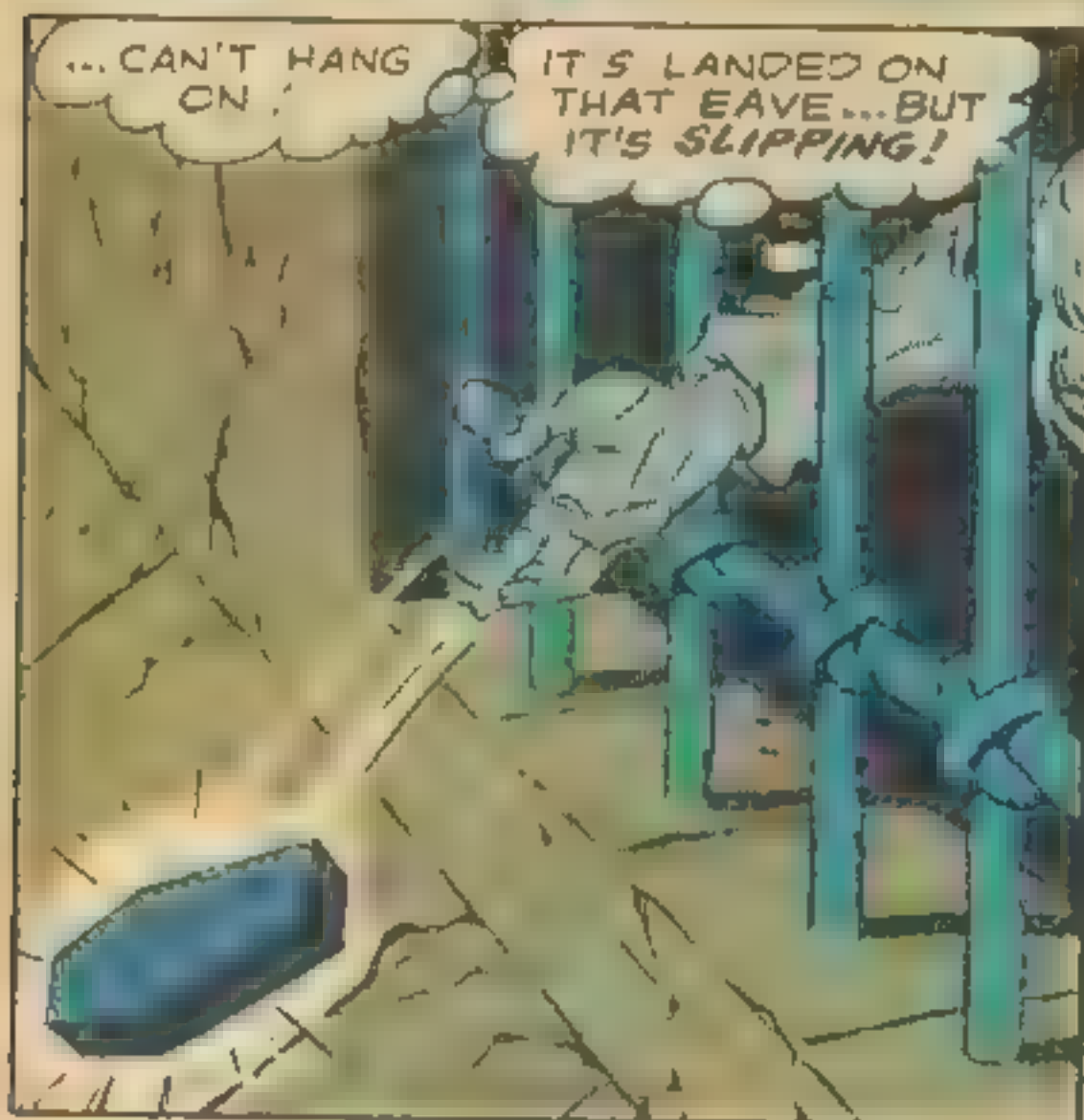
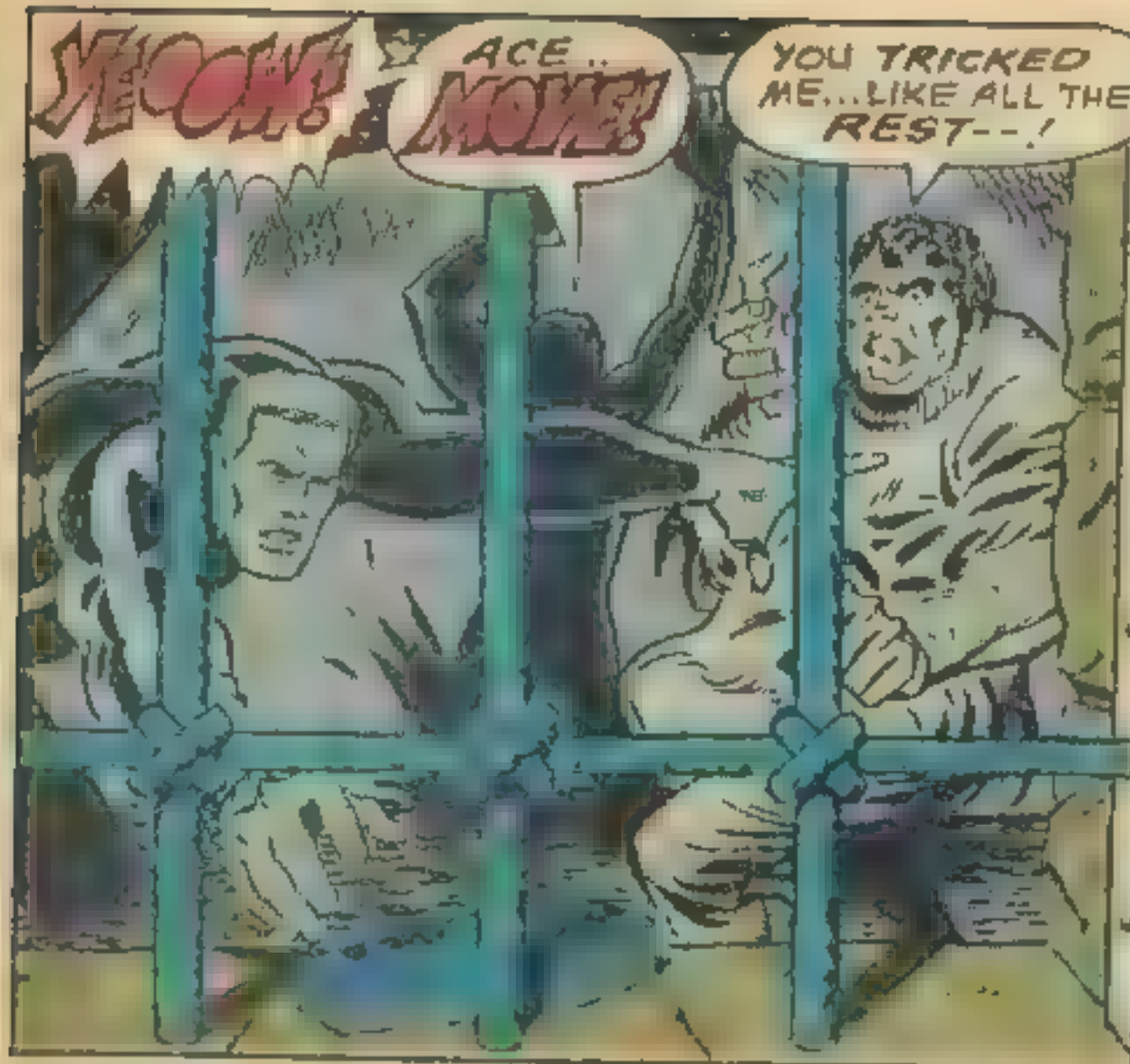
BETCHA CAN'T CATCH ME... AWW! YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO DO BETTER'N THAT!

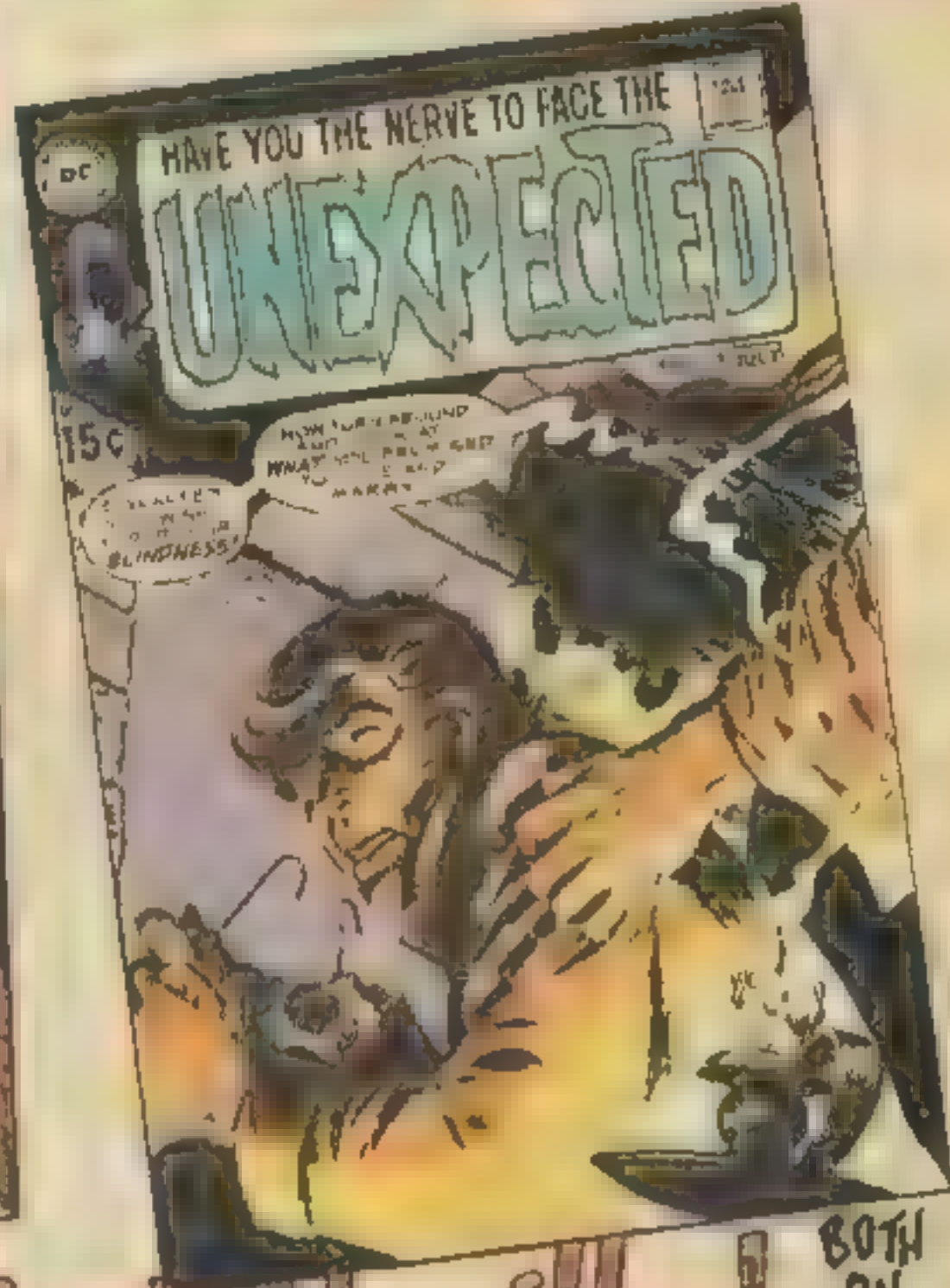
RED'S JAPING IS CRUEL... BUT NECESSARY! WE'LL MAKE IT UP TO NODO AFTER I GET MY HANDS ON THAT THING---



HOWEVER, RED STEPS ON A ROTTED TIMBER, AND...

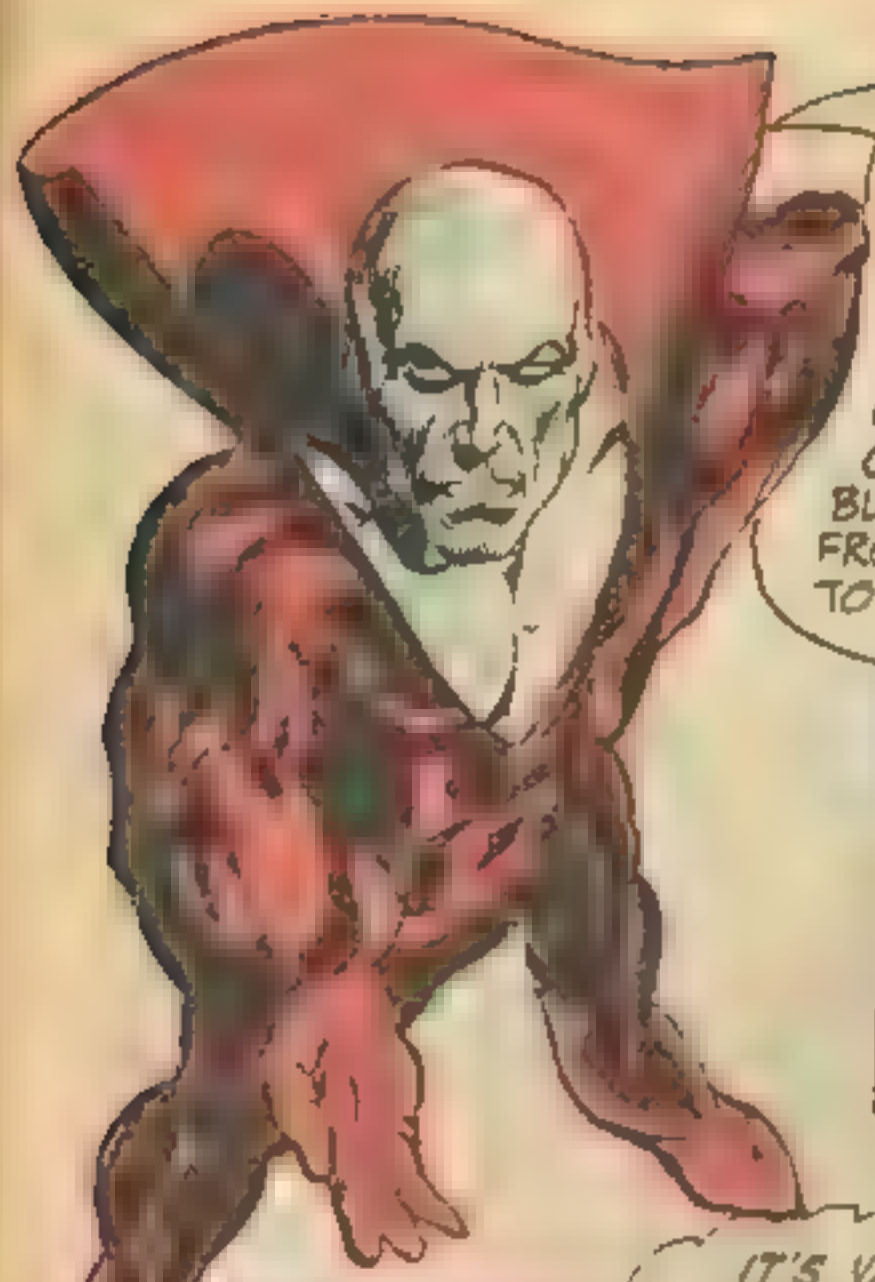
KREEE!





for spine-tingling thrills!

BOTH ON SALE APRIL 2nd



REMEMBER ME? THIS'S WHERE I CAME IN... BUT TO UNDERSTAND THE PLACE OF A DEADMAN IN THIS CAPER, YOU HAVE TO COME BACK WITH ME TO EARLIER IN THE DAY WHEN I WAS MAKING A VISIT TO THE CIRCUS WHERE I ONCE TOOK A BULLET AND FELL FROM A TRAPEZE TO MY DEATH!

I HOPED TO TRY TO TALK WITH MY ONE-TIME PAL AND MENTOR, VASHNU! I FOUND THE OLD GUY INCOMMUNICADO...

HE MUSTA BEEN HURT RECENTLY-- WITH THAT BANDAGE ON HIS HEAD...

HE'S WATCHING SOMETHING IN THAT CLOUD THING... DIM, DISTANT FIGURES...

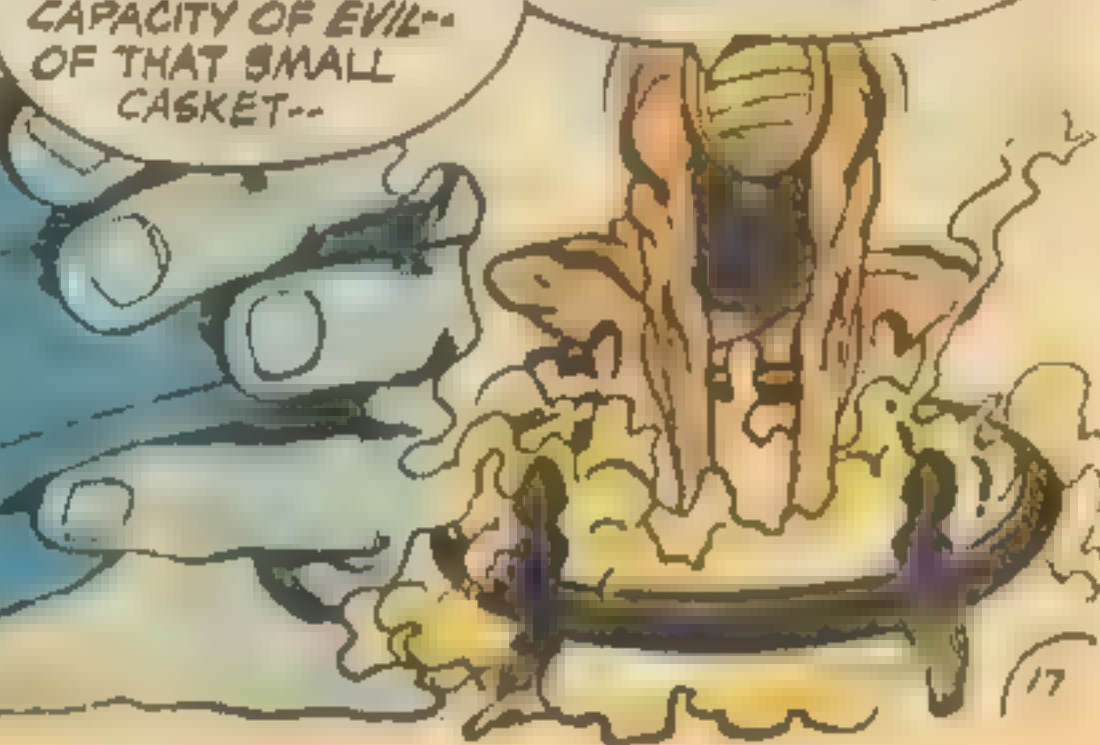
IT'S VASHNU HIMSELF... AN' SOME HUMAN BUZZARD IS CLOUTING HIM FROM BEHIND-- SO THAT'S HOW HE WAS INJURED!

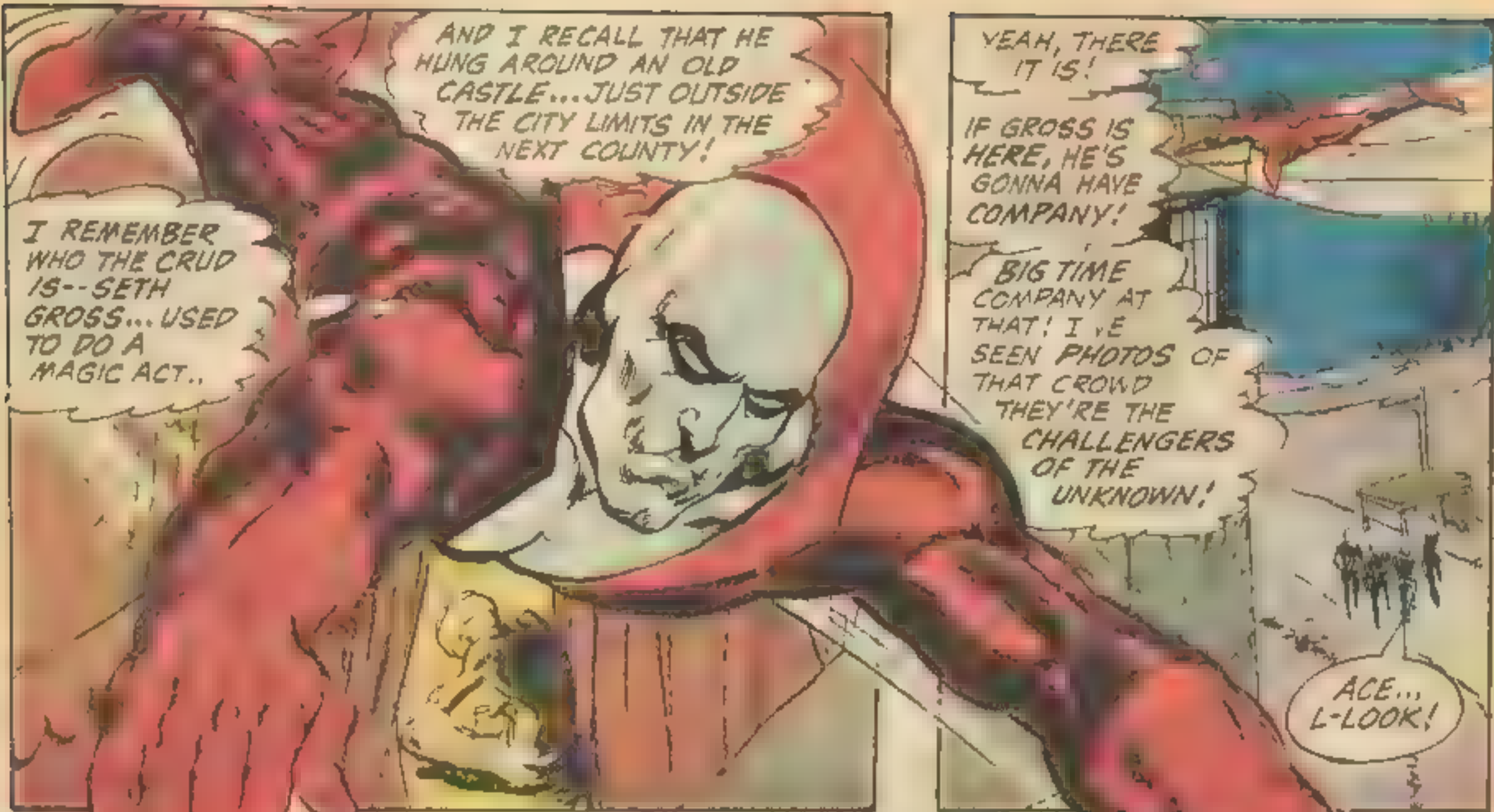
I UNDERSTAND.. I'M LOOKIN' AT SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED IN THE PAST! THE CRUD IS SWIPIN' VASHNU'S BOX--

I TRUSTED HIM, TAUGHT HIM... AND HE TURNED UPON ME LIKE A VIPER--AND STOLE THAT WHICH SHOULD NEVER BE TAKEN AMONG MEN!

HE CAN HAVE NO IDEA OF THE POWER--THE CAPACITY OF EVIL--OF THAT SMALL CASKET--

AND IN LOSING IT, I HAVE FAILED IN MY SACRED TRUST!





AND I RECALL THAT HE
HUNG AROUND AN OLD
CASTLE...JUST OUTSIDE
THE CITY LIMITS IN THE
NEXT COUNTY!

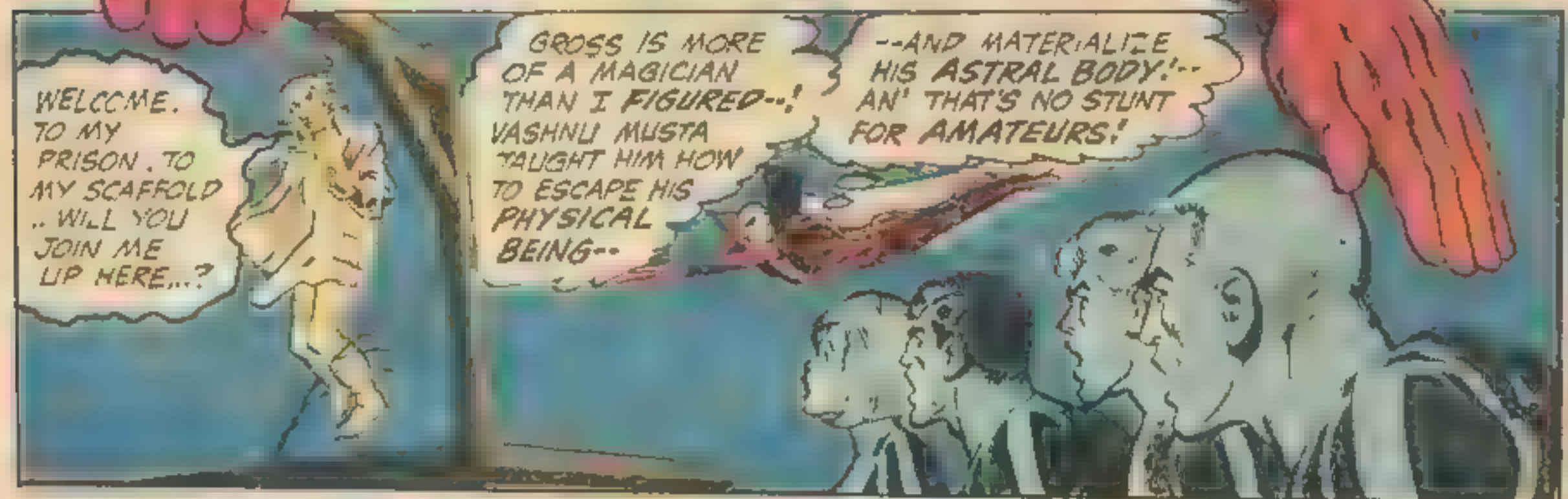
I REMEMBER
WHO THE CRUD
IS-- SETH
GROSS... USED
TO DO A
MAGIC ACT..

YEAH, THERE
IT IS!

IF GROSS IS
HERE, HE'S
GONNA HAVE
COMPANY!

BIG TIME
COMPANY AT
THAT! I'VE
SEEN PHOTOS OF
THAT CROWD
THEY'RE THE
CHALLENGERS
OF THE
UNKNOWN!

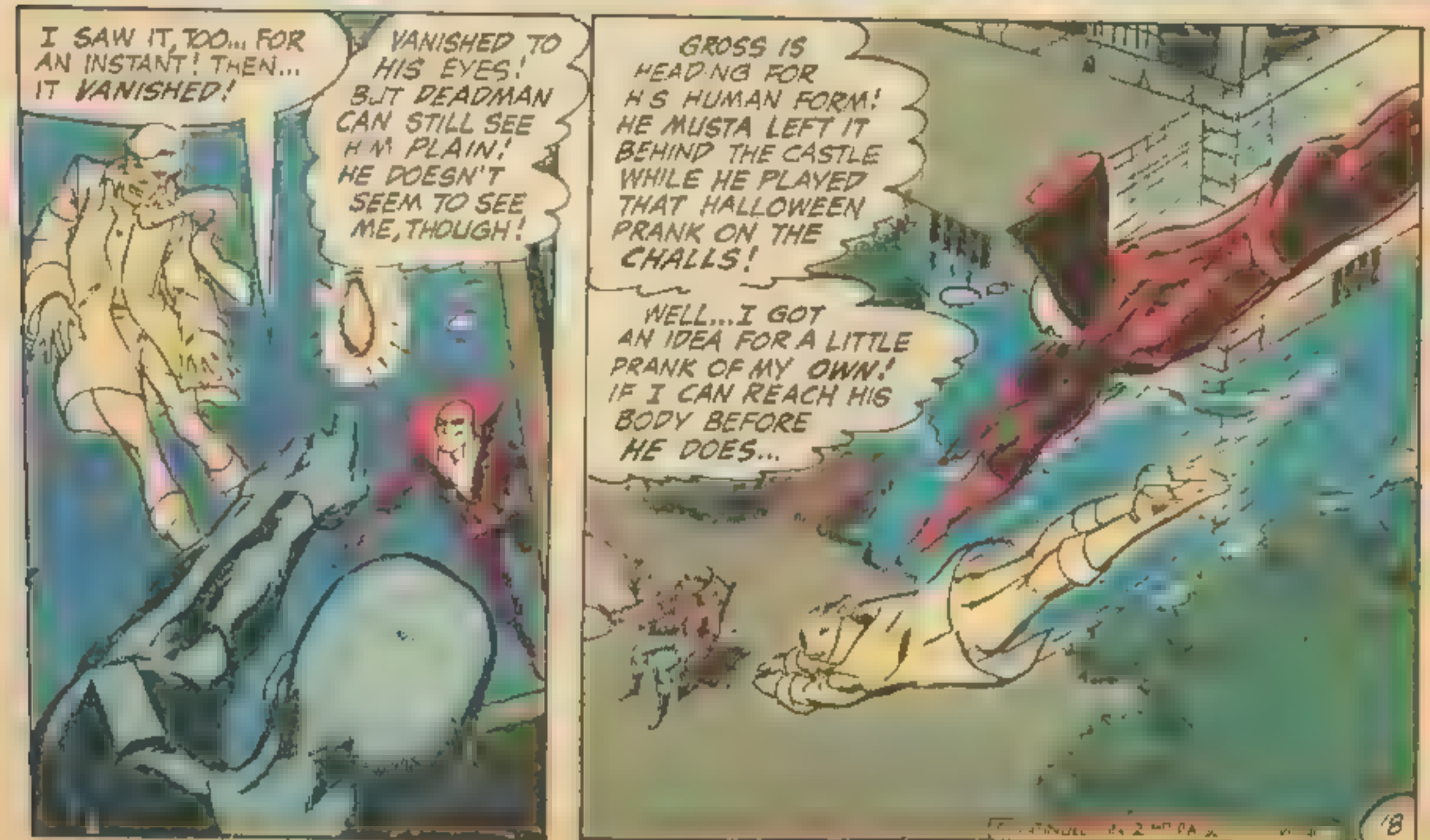
ACE...
L-LOOK!



WELCOME.
TO MY
PRISON. TO
MY SCAFFOLD
.. WILL YOU
JOIN ME
UP HERE...?

GROSS IS MORE
OF A MAGICIAN
THAN I FIGURED--!
VASHNI MUSTA
TAUGHT HIM HOW
TO ESCAPE HIS
PHYSICAL
BEING--

--AND MATERIALIZE
HIS ASTRAL BODY!--
AN' THAT'S NO STUNT
FOR AMATEURS!

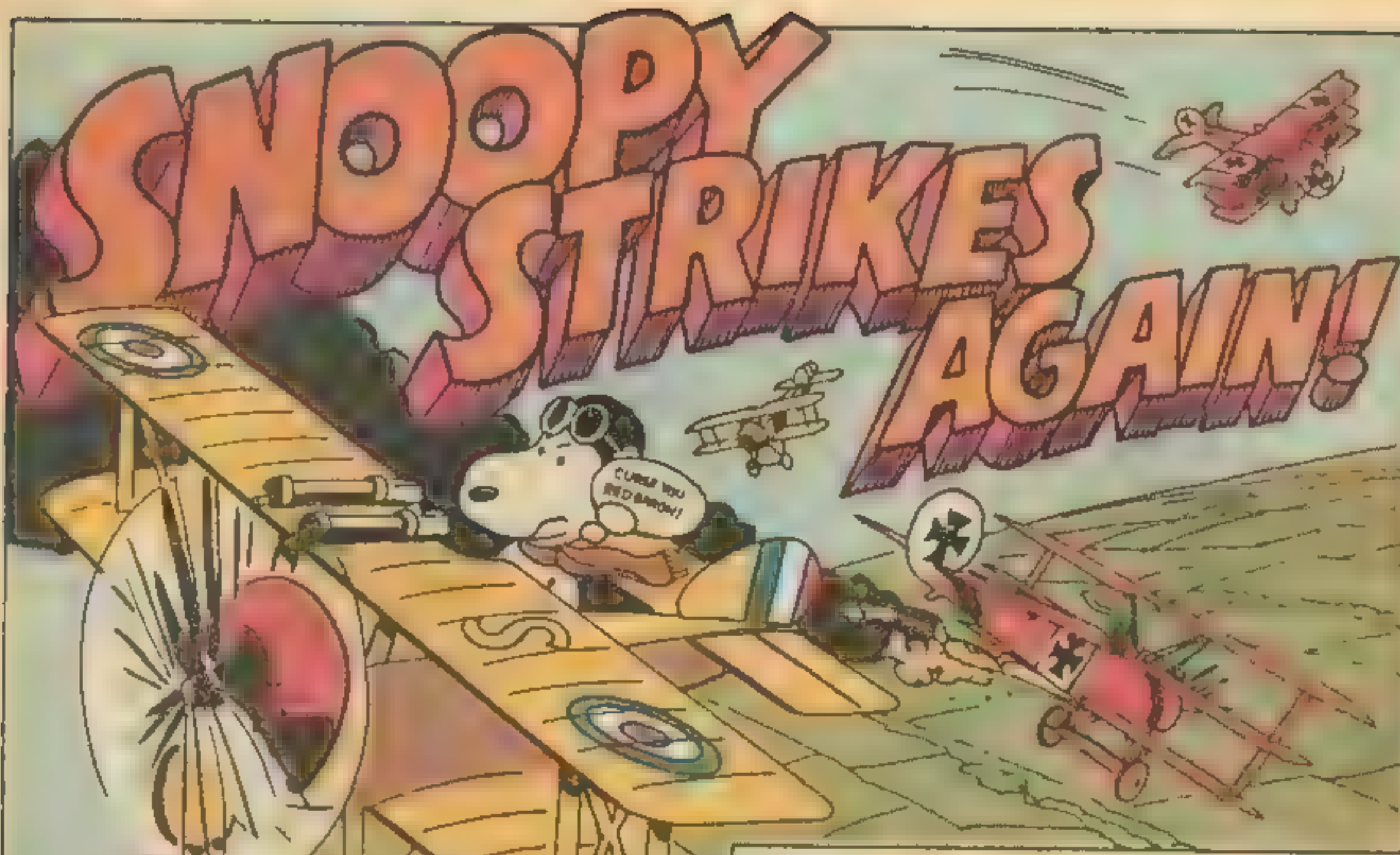


I SAW IT, TOO... FOR
AN INSTANT! THEN...
IT VANISHED!

VANISHED TO
HIS EYES!
BUT DEADMAN
CAN STILL SEE
HIM PLAIN!
HE DOESN'T
SEEM TO SEE
ME, THOUGH!

GROSS IS
HEADING FOR
HIS HUMAN FORM!
HE MUSTA LEFT IT
BEHIND THE CASTLE
WHILE HE PLAYED
THAT HALLOWEEN
PRANK ON THE
CHALLS!

WELL...I GOT
AN IDEA FOR A LITTLE
PRANK OF MY OWN!
IF I CAN REACH HIS
BODY BEFORE
HE DOES...



RIDE WITH SNOOPY INTO THE WILDEST DOGFIGHT EVER!

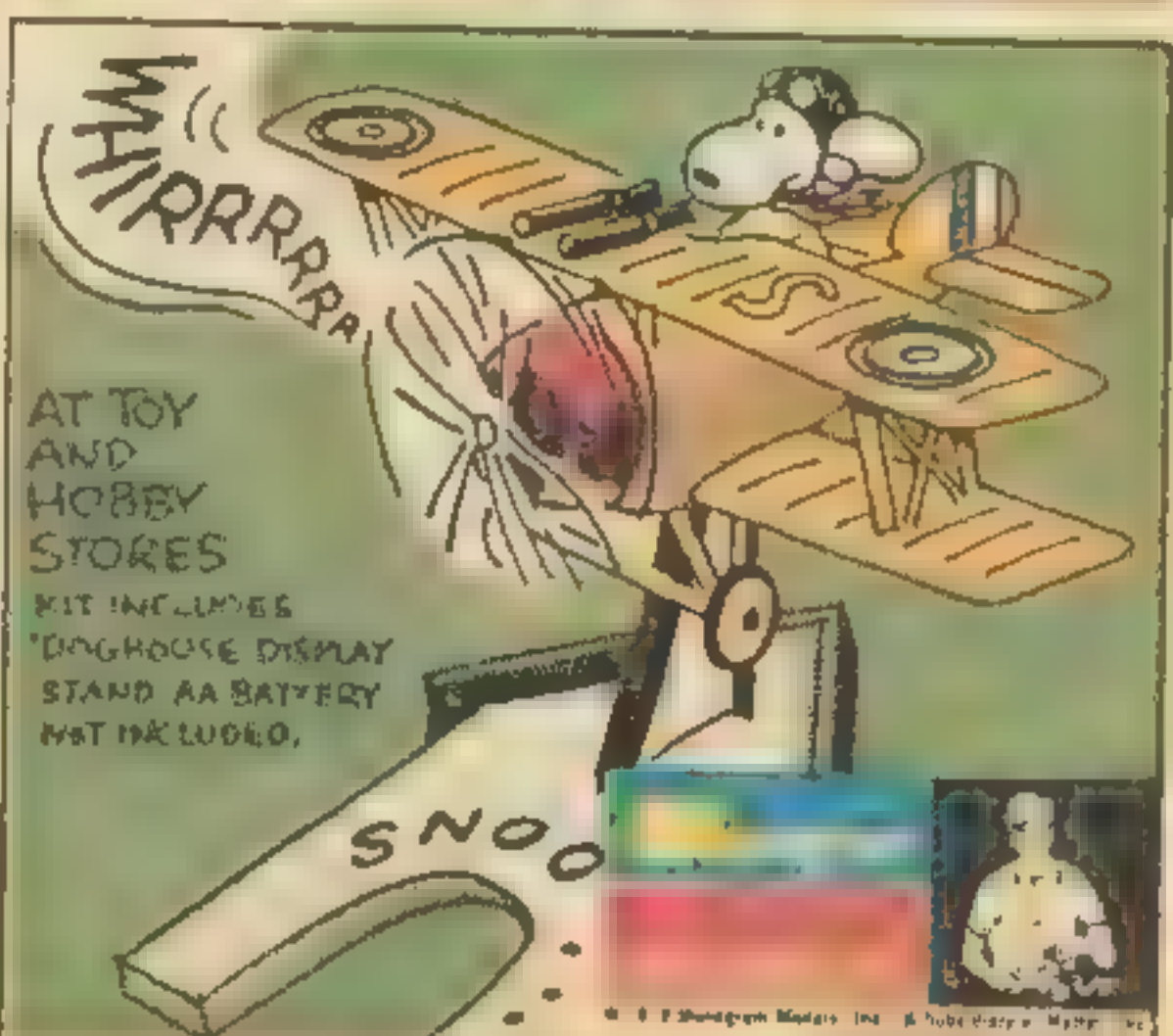
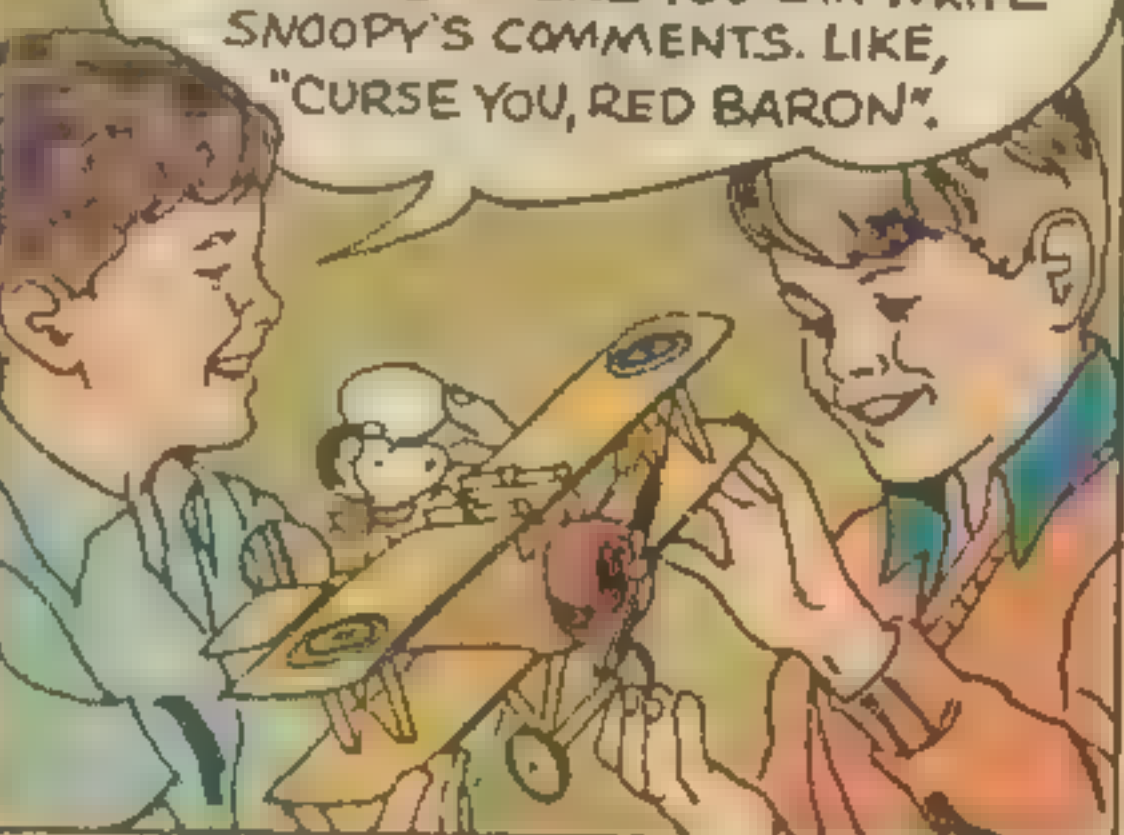
WOW! WHAT A KIT FROM MONOGRAM. HIS SOPWITH CAMEL. COMES WITH A BATTERY-POWERED PROPELLER YOU FLIP TO START LIKE A REAL PLANE.

EASY AND FUN TO BUILD. JUST SNAPS TOGETHER SO YOU DON'T NEED GLUE.



MINUTES LATER... LOOKS GROOVY!

AND YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO PAINT IT! HERE'S WHERE YOU CAN WRITE SNOOPY'S COMMENTS. LIKE, "CURSE YOU, RED BARON".



MADE IT! NOW WE'LL
SEE HOW SETH-BABY
LIKES BEING ON
THE RECEIVING END
OF SOME
NASTIES--

SORRY, CHUM... NO
VACANCIES! THIS
CARCASS IS
OCCUPIED!

W-WHO
ARE
YOU?

NEVER MIND THAT--!
WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS, HOW
BADLY DO YOU WANT TO
WEAR THIS HUNK
OF MEAT?

BUT... YOU
CAN'T DEPRIVE
ME OF MY OWN
BODY!

WANNA
BET? I CAN
AND WILL,
JACK--UNLESS
I GET SOME
ANSWERS--
PRONTO!

WHY'D YOU CLOBBER
YASHNU? AND WHAT'D
YOU DO WITH THE
BOX YOU
STOLE?

I MUST STALL...
GAIN TIME TO
FORM A PLAN!

I'LL TELL
EVERYTHING...

"FOR YEARS, I DREAMED OF WEALTH! YET,
ALWAYS, I WAS AFRAID TO SEIZE IT... UNTIL
I MET YASHNU! THEN I BEGAN TO UNDER-
STAND HOW I COULD REALIZE MY AMBITION
WITH NO RISK! I GAINED HIS CONFIDENCE...
BORROWED THE MYSTIC EBONY CONTAINER..."

...AND HURRIED TO THE HOME OF PROFESSOR
MC JAMES! I PUT A FINAL POTION INTO HIS
DAUGHTER'S MILK--ONE WHICH PUT HER IN A
STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION--"

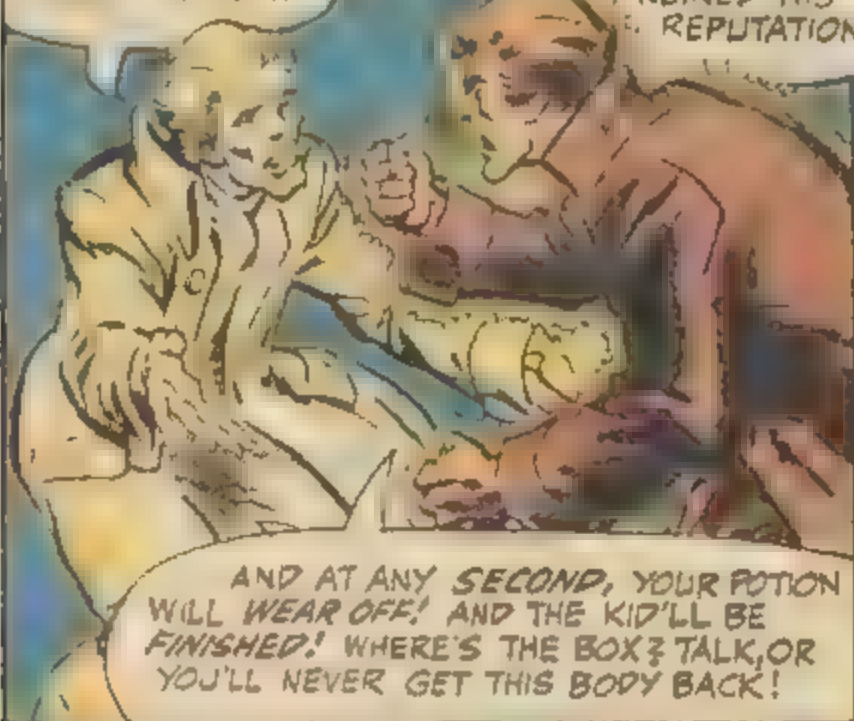
"THEN, I IMPERSON-
ATED A GHOST!
I USED THE
ENCHANTED
PROPERTIES OF
MY PRIZE TO STEAL
THE GIRL'S SOUL,
WHILE HER BODY
APPEARED TO DIE!
EVERYTHING WAS
CAREFULLY WORKED
OUT!"

"I OFFERED TO EXCHANGE THE CHILD'S SOUL FOR A RUBY MC JAMES HAD ACCESS TO--! I WAS COUNTING ON HIS RELUCTANCE TO BUY THE GIRL WHILE THE TWO PARTS OF HER BEING WERE STILL SEPARATE--"



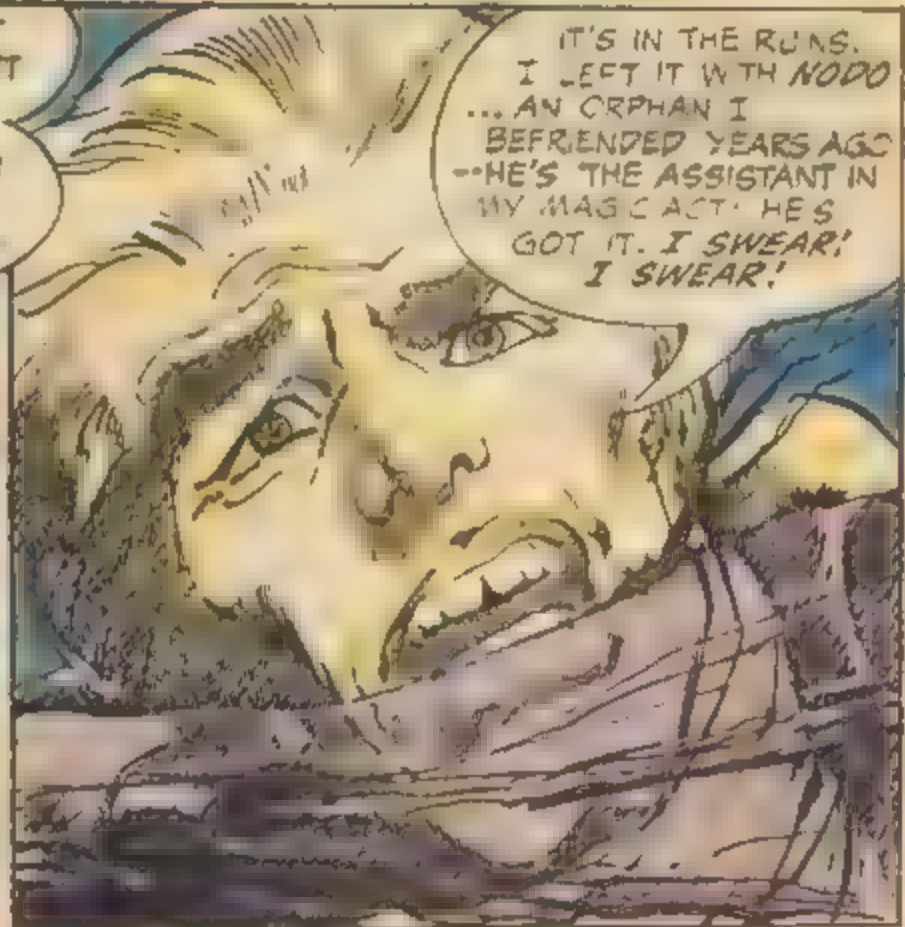
YOU UNDERSTAND, DON'T YOU THAT I HAVE DONE NO REAL HARM! HER APPEARANCE RESEMBLES DEATH, BUT SHE IS STILL ALIVE...

YEAH, SURE, YOU DIDN'T HURT ANYBODY...EXCEPT HER OLD MAN, WHO'S EATING HIS GUTS OUT WITH GRIEF...YOU RUINED HIS REPUTATION



AND AT ANY SECOND, YOUR POTION WILL WEAR OFF! AND THE KID'LL BE FINISHED! WHERE'S THE BOX? TALK, OR YOU'LL NEVER GET THIS BODY BACK!

IT'S IN THE RUNS. I LEFT IT WITH NODO... AN ORPHAN I BEFREINDED YEARS AGO --HE'S THE ASSISTANT IN MY MAGIC ACT. HE'S GOT IT. I SWEAR! I SWEAR!



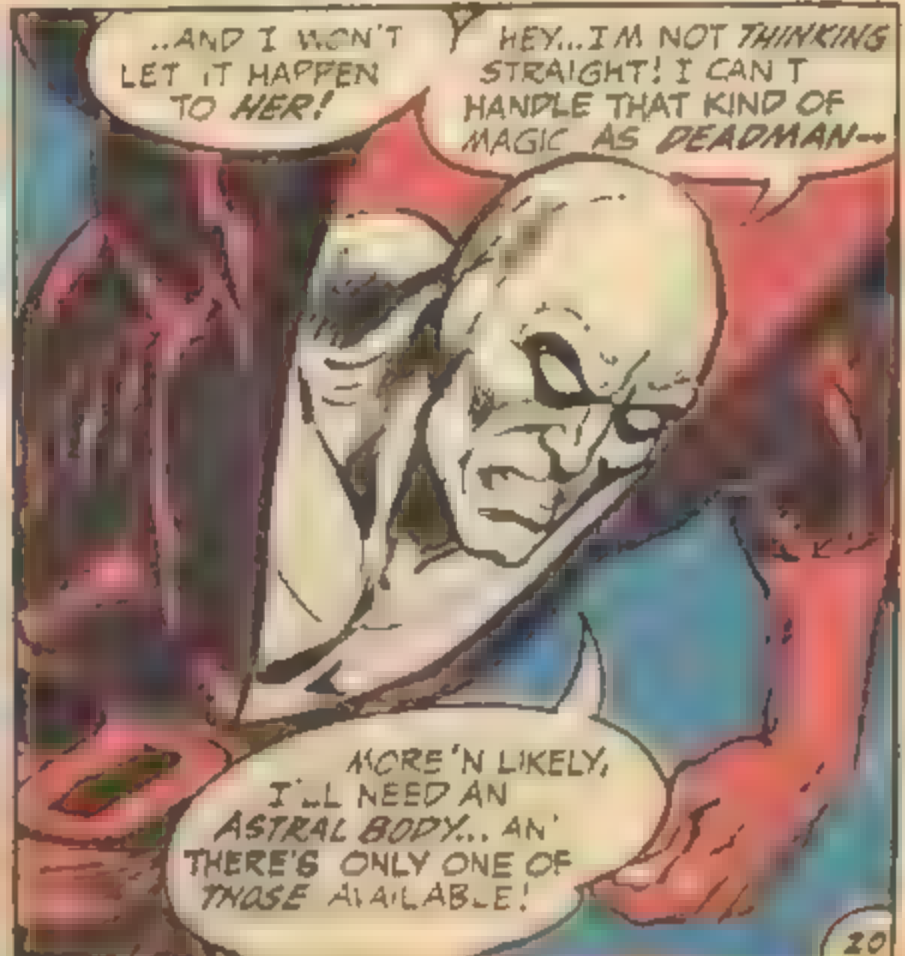
CRAY IF YOU'RE LYING, THERE WON'T BE ANYPLACE YOU CAN GO I WON'T FIND YOU... AND MAKE YOU REGRET EVER BEING BORN!



THAT POOR LITTLE KID! I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO HAVE YOUR LIFE CUT SHORT--

..AND I WON'T LET IT HAPPEN TO HER!

HEY...I'M NOT THINKING STRAIGHT! I CAN'T HANDLE THAT KIND OF MAGIC AS DEADMAN--



MORE'N LIKELY, I'LL NEED AN ASTRAL BODY.. AN' THERE'S ONLY ONE OF THOSE AVAILABLE!

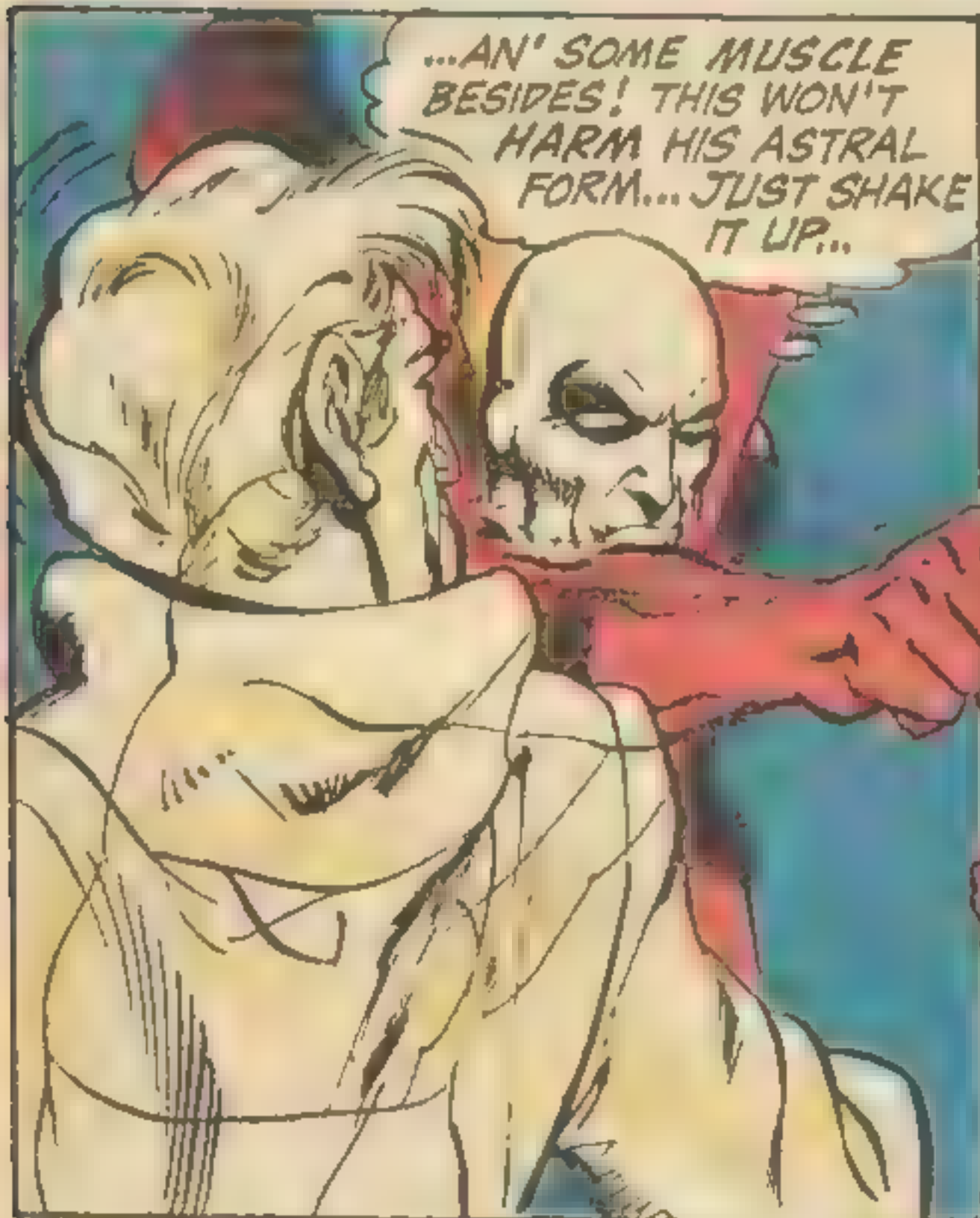


YOU AGAIN...!
YOU CAN'T STOP ME--!

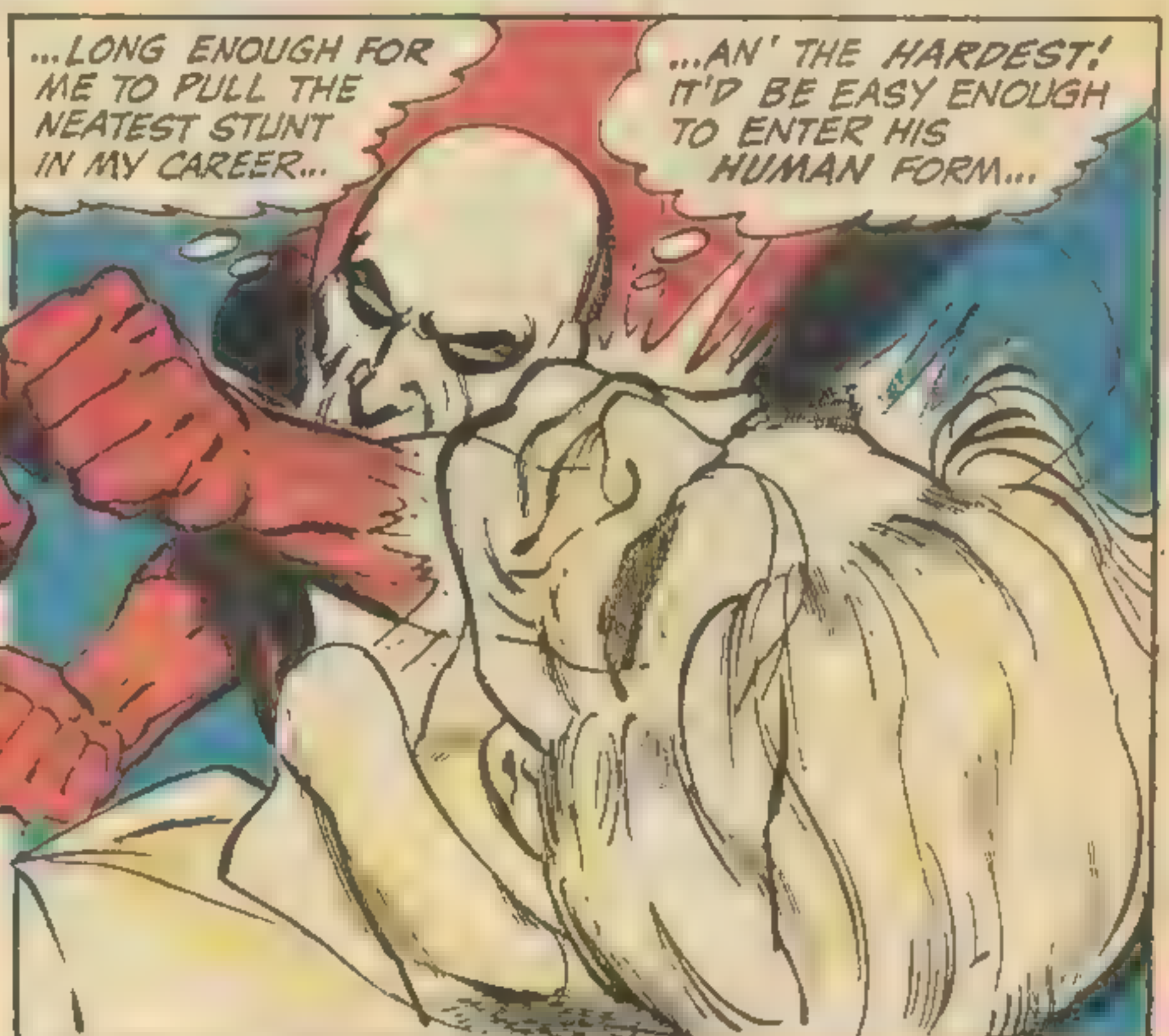
MISTER, YOU GOT A POSITIVE HABIT OF BEING WRONG!

GOT TO KEEP HIM OFF-GUARD... HE HAS A NATURAL AFFINITY FOR HIS OWN BODY!

THE ONLY WAY I CAN KEEP HIM FROM IT IS TO USE TOTAL WILL POWER...



...AN' SOME MUSCLE BESIDES! THIS WON'T HARM HIS ASTRAL FORM... JUST SHAKE IT UP...



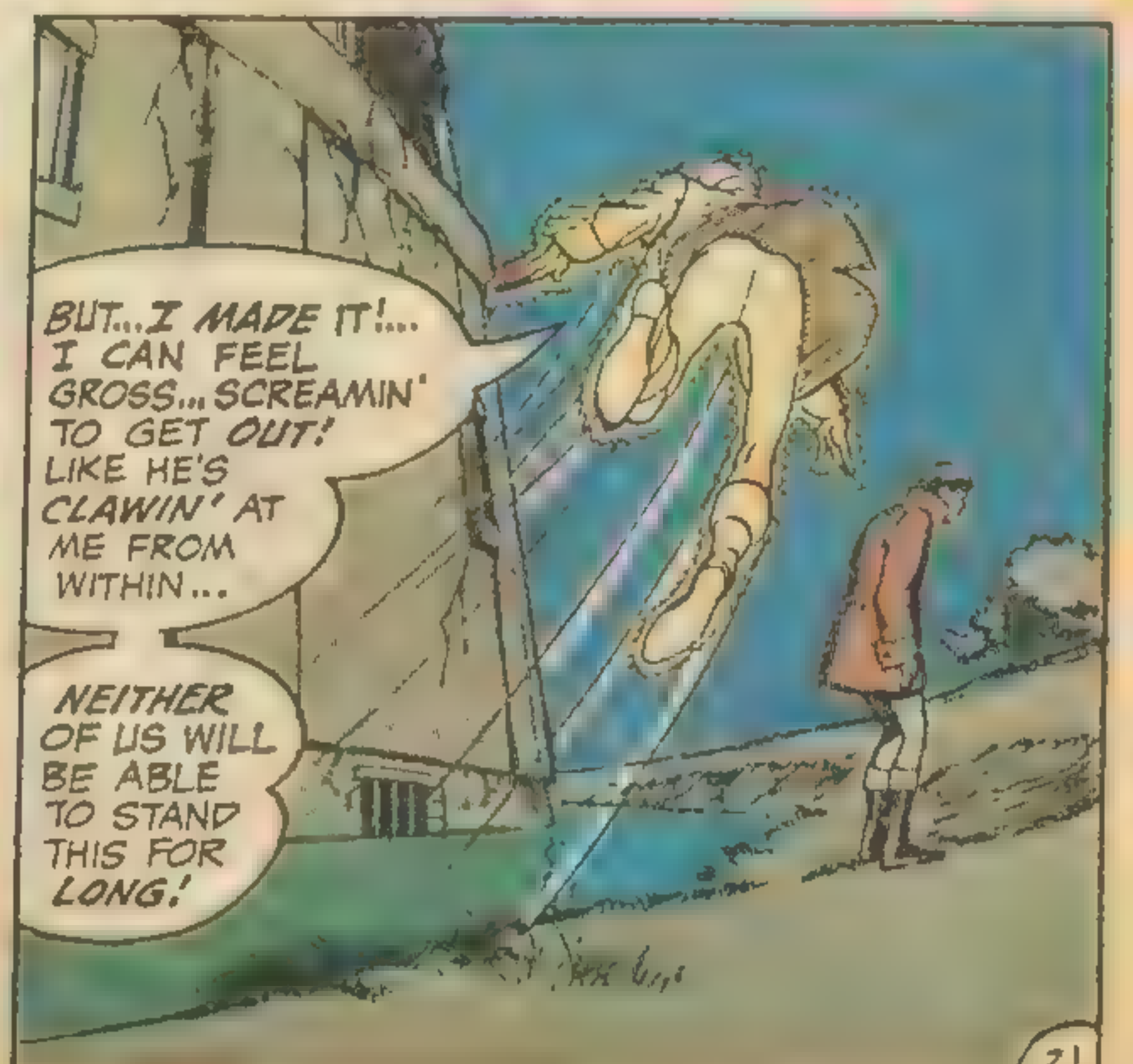
...LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO PULL THE NEATEST STUNT IN MY CAREER...

...AN' THE HARDEST! IT'D BE EASY ENOUGH TO ENTER HIS HUMAN FORM...



WHAT I GOTTA DO IS SOMEHOW GET INSIDE HIS ASTRAL BEING...

NEVER... TRIED... THIS BEFORE! MY GOD... IT HURTS!



BUT... I MADE IT!... I CAN FEEL GROSS... SCREAMIN' TO GET OUT! LIKE HE'S CLAWIN' AT ME FROM WITHIN...

NEITHER OF US WILL BE ABLE TO STAND THIS FOR LONG!



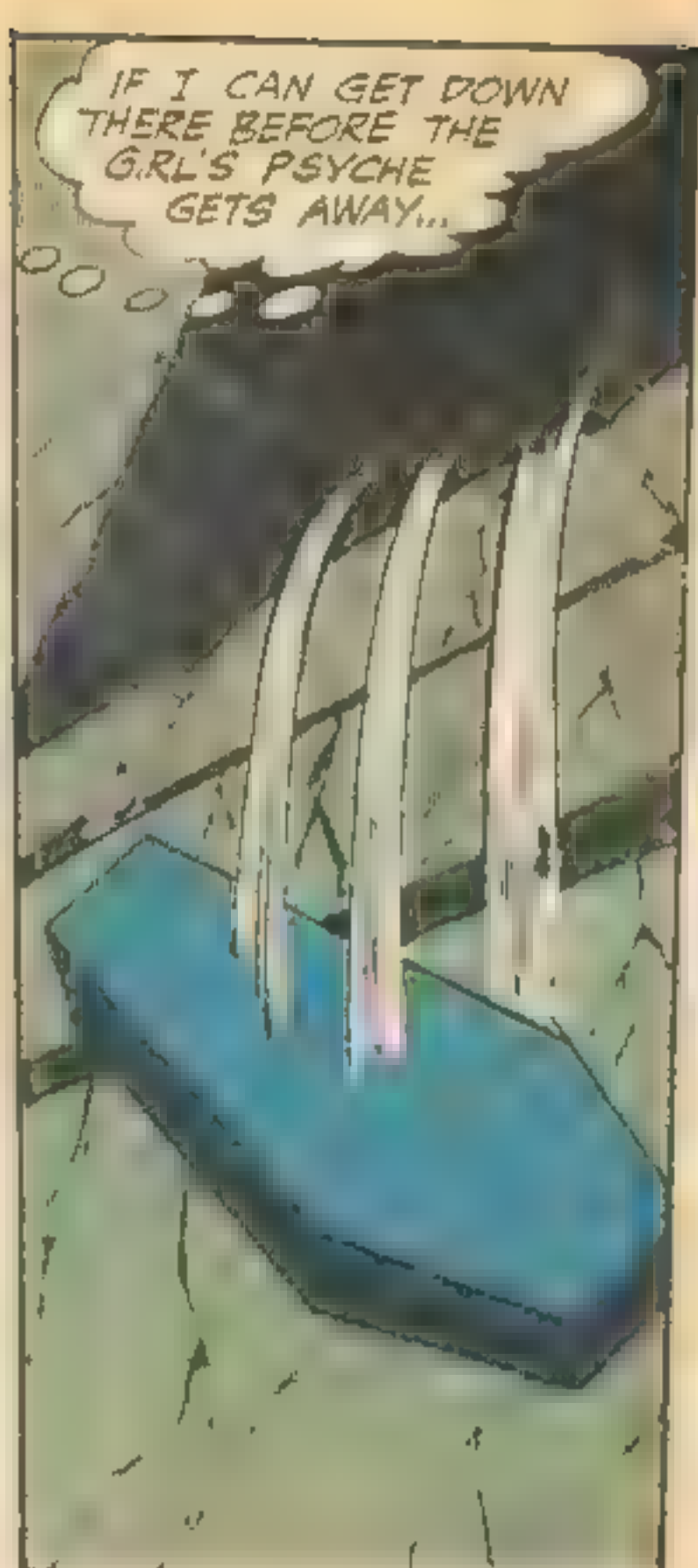
SO MUCH
FAN, I CAN
BARELY SEE!

SOMETHING'S GOING
ON AT THAT WINDOW!
TWO GUYS
FIGHTING OVER
THAT BOX...



THE CREW-CUT IS
ACE MORGAN--THE
CHALLENGER... AND
HE AIN'T DOIN'
SO WELL...

HE
MISSED
IT--!



IF I CAN GET DOWN
THERE BEFORE THE
G.R.L.'S PSYCHE
GETS AWAY...



YEAH, WE'RE
HOME FREE!

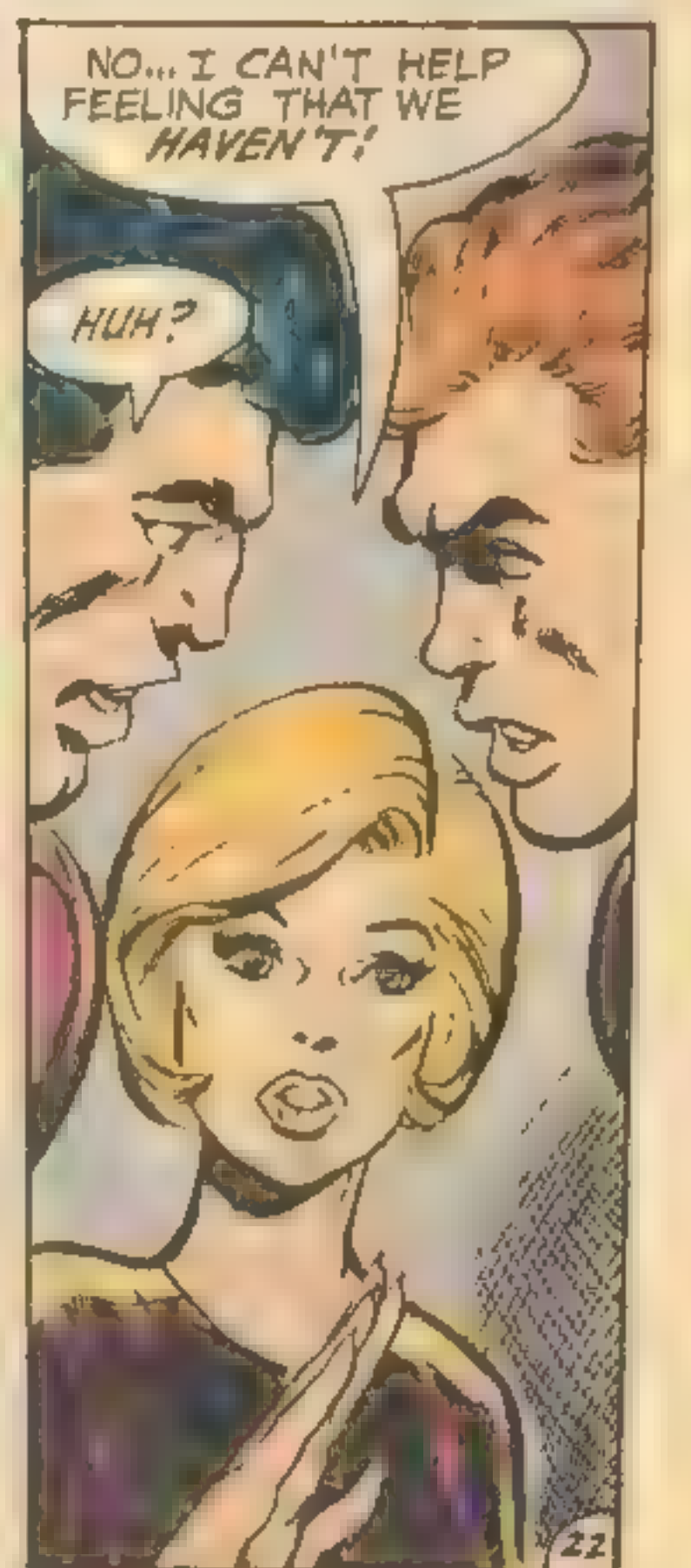
I--I'M SO
FRIGHTENED!
WHERE'S MY
DADDY--?

EASY, KID!
EVERYTHING'S
FINE--NOW!
I'M TAKIN'
YOU HOME--



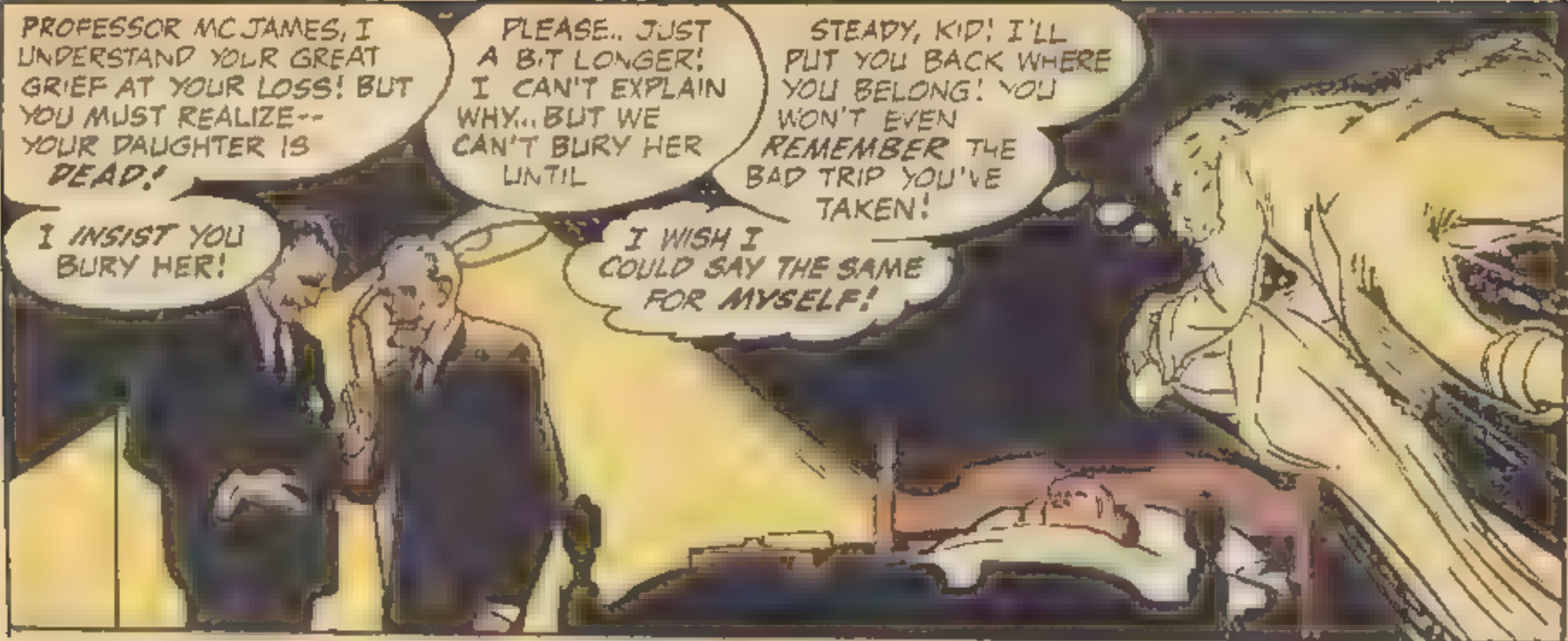
THE GHOST HAS TAKEN
THE MC JAMES GIRL...
THEY'RE FLYING AWAY--!
AND WE CAN'T HOPE
TO FOLLOW!

WE'VE
FAILED!



NO... I CAN'T HELP
FEELING THAT WE
HAVEN'T!

HUH?



PROFESSOR MCJAMES, I UNDERSTAND YOUR GREAT GRIEF AT YOUR LOSS! BUT YOU MUST REALIZE-- YOUR DAUGHTER IS DEAD!

I INSIST YOU BURY HER!

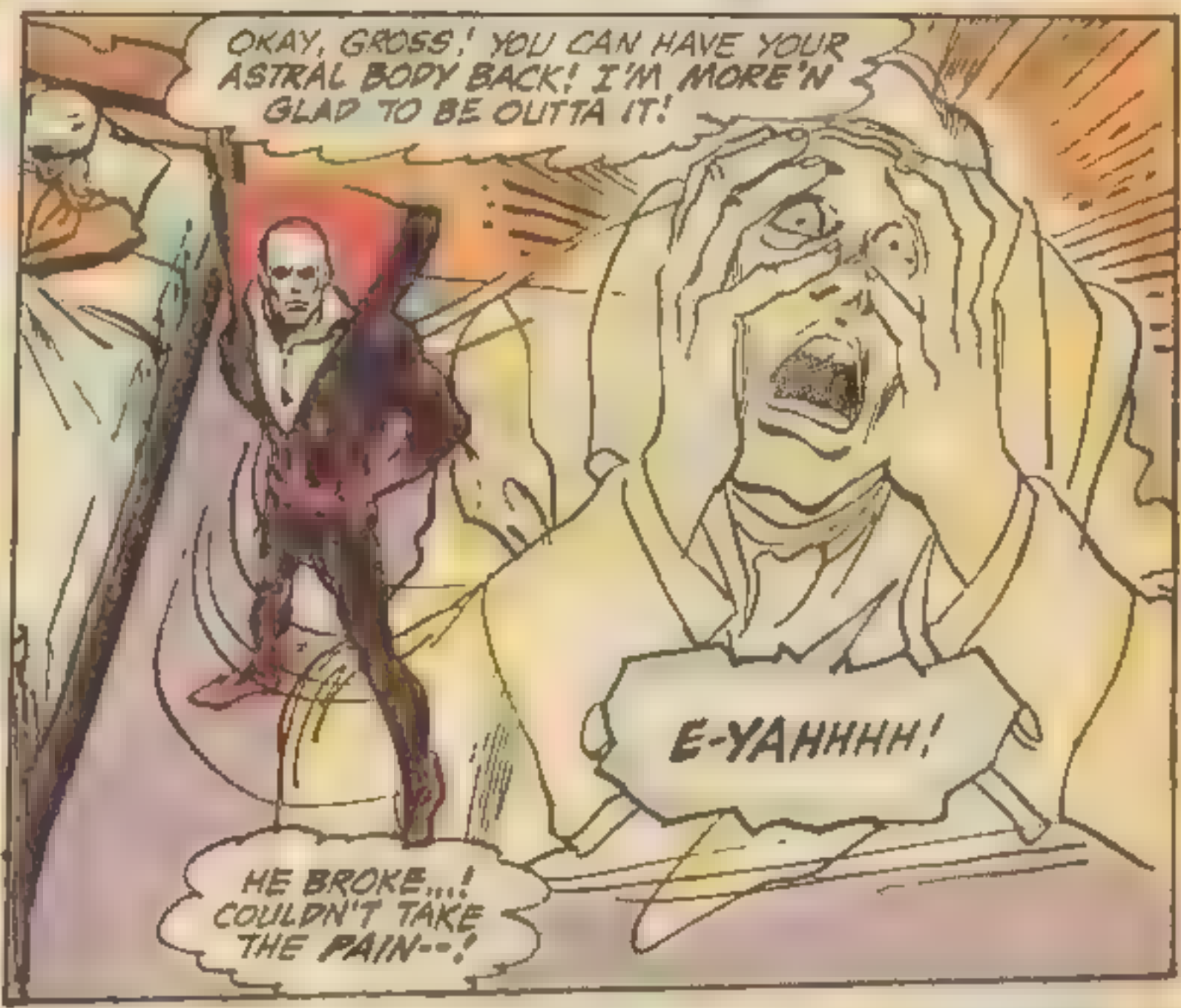
PLEASE.. JUST A BIT LONGER! I CAN'T EXPLAIN WHY.. BUT WE CAN'T BURY HER UNTIL

STEADY, KID! I'LL PUT YOU BACK WHERE YOU BELONG! YOU WON'T EVEN REMEMBER THE BAD TRIP YOU'VE TAKEN!

I WISH I COULD SAY THE SAME FOR MYSELF!



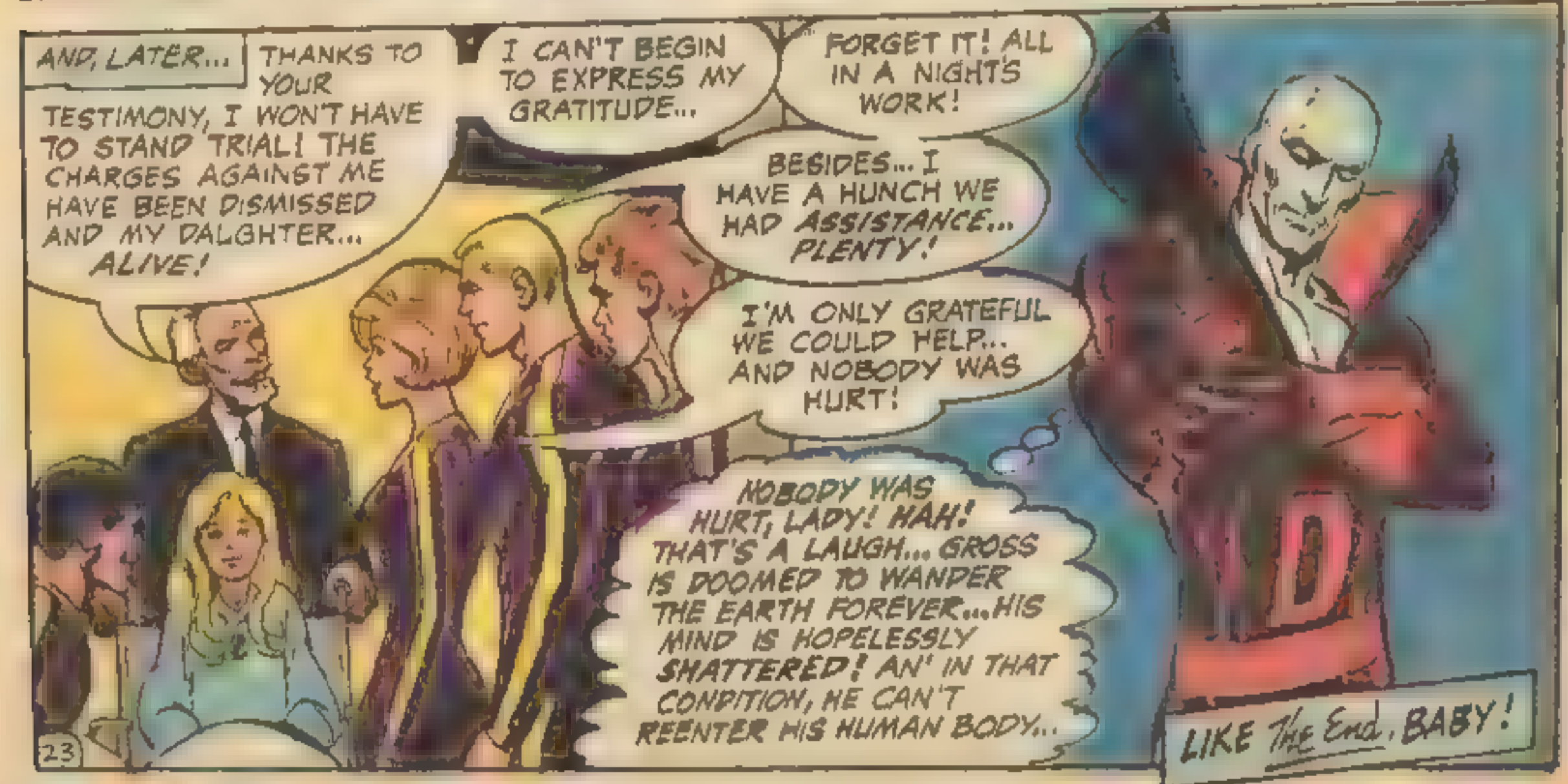
DADDY!



OKAY, GROSS! YOU CAN HAVE YOUR ASTRAL BODY BACK! I'M MORE'N GLAD TO BE OUTTA IT!

E-YAHHHH!

HE BROKE...! COULDN'T TAKE THE PAIN--!



AND, LATER... THANKS TO YOUR TESTIMONY, I WON'T HAVE TO STAND TRIAL! THE CHARGES AGAINST ME HAVE BEEN DISMISSED AND MY DAUGHTER... ALIVE!

I CAN'T BEGIN TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE...

FORGET IT! ALL IN A NIGHT'S WORK!

BESIDES... I HAVE A HUNCH WE HAD ASSISTANCE... PLENTY!

I'M ONLY GRATEFUL WE COULD HELP... AND NOBODY WAS HURT!

NOBODY WAS HURT, LADY! HAH! THAT'S A LAUGH... GROSS IS DOOMED TO WANDER THE EARTH FOREVER... HIS MIND IS HOPELESSLY SHATTERED! AN' IN THAT CONDPITION, HE CAN'T REENTER HIS HUMAN BODY..



LIKE THE END, BABY!

LET'S CHAT WITH THE CHALLS

Address all mail to
CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN
National Periodicals
909 Third Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022

B-597



Dear Editor:

Hey, now! How about Major Cheever wielding that gun in "The Curse of the Killer Time Forgot"? That's possible, I mean, to shoot in a capsule?

Roland Broder, Yonkers, N.Y.

Sure is, according to Denny O'Neil, the writer, who replies: "Yep, Cheever could shoot in the capsule. There is oxygen, which is all that's needed to detonate gunpowder, and weightlessness increases, rather than decreases the ballistic efficiency of bullets. Cheever's only problem might be one of excessive recoil and that could be handled by bracing himself against a bulkhead."

Satisfied?—Ed.

...

Dear Editor:

The credits for that 2-page quickie, "A Flash of Memory," were sorely missed in #73. Who and why?

Ruth Berliner, Miami, Fla.

Maybe we were too modest; maybe we simply forgot. If so, we could've enjoyed a flash of memory ourselves because it was written by none other than li'l ol' me, the Editor. It was most skillfully drawn by Dick Dillin and Vince Colletta.—Ed.

.....

Dear Editor:

Do you still have tours through your offices? I plan to visit New York this Summer, and would appreciate knowing the day and time of the tours, and if we get any free mags or art.

Steve Wilhelmson, San Jose, Calif.

Because we were overwhelmed by swarms of eager-beavers in the past, we were forced to discontinue the regular tours, but the welcome mat is always out for visitors. Simply phone and inquire when it would be convenient to make the rounds of the Editorial, Art and Production Depts. when you're in town. We can't guarantee any free mags—General Motors doesn't give you a free automobile, does it?—but we probably will give you some sort of a souvenir to remember us by.—Ed.

.....

Dear Editor:

In a recent issue, you mentioned that back issues were available, not from your offices but via a source that could prove to be helpful. Would you please tell me whether these issues can be obtained? I'm attaching a list.

Kevin Kupp, Northglen, Colo.

We really opened a can of peas in a generous effort to be helpful. So let's set the record straight. If you

are seeking back issues, do not—repeat, do NOT!—ask us to reply, or include coins or stamps. Merely send us the titles and numbers of the magazines, plus a self-addressed, stamped envelope, which we will forward to someone who will reply. Similarly, we are not encouraging, in fact, we discourage letters from fans offering their own mags for sale or to trade. These will be immediately consigned to the waste basket.—Ed.

.....

EDITOR'S NOTE: At one time, our Challs were known as "Death Cheaters" because they all were aboard the same plane, which crashed. They miraculously survived and in recognition of this phenomenal event, they teamed up. Since then, we hear from readers who also were saved from fatalities. Whether fact or fiction, we offer a couple here, which each author guarantees to be the truth.

"When I was six, my family visited Glacier Point in Yosemite National Park," writes Ronald Murillo of Alama, Calif. "My father had gone down a slanted ledge to retrieve something when I followed on the run. I slipped. No guard rails. I flung out a hand, grabbed the trunk of a small tree that had grown through a large crack in the ground and held on until rescued. It was so close, I never thought I'd be around today to tell about it."

"Let me recount my father's experience when he was very young," says Peter Merchant from Halifax, N.S. "His bed was beside a window. The nurse had just removed him to be fed when a single minute later the Halifax Explosion occurred. The resulting force caused windows to shatter; in some parts of the city, whole houses were flattened. A huge, triangular pane of glass jabbed into the pillow where my father's head had rested mere seconds ago. Sorta close, huh?"

.....

Dear Editor:

Down with the old villains! Up with the truly unknown menaces!

Ed Boner, Rochester, Mich.

That's precisely what we intend to do, Ed!—Ed.

.....

Dear Editor:

Congratulations on the 12th anniversary of the Challs in their own mag come February 1970. It's been a great 12 years!

Carl Gafford, New Milford, Conn.

Thank you, Carl, and let's hope we have 12 more adventurous years. We trust you...and you...and you...and you are with us all the way!—Ed.

40

ARMY-NAVY-MARINE

ALL AUTHENTIC MEDALS & INSIGNIAS

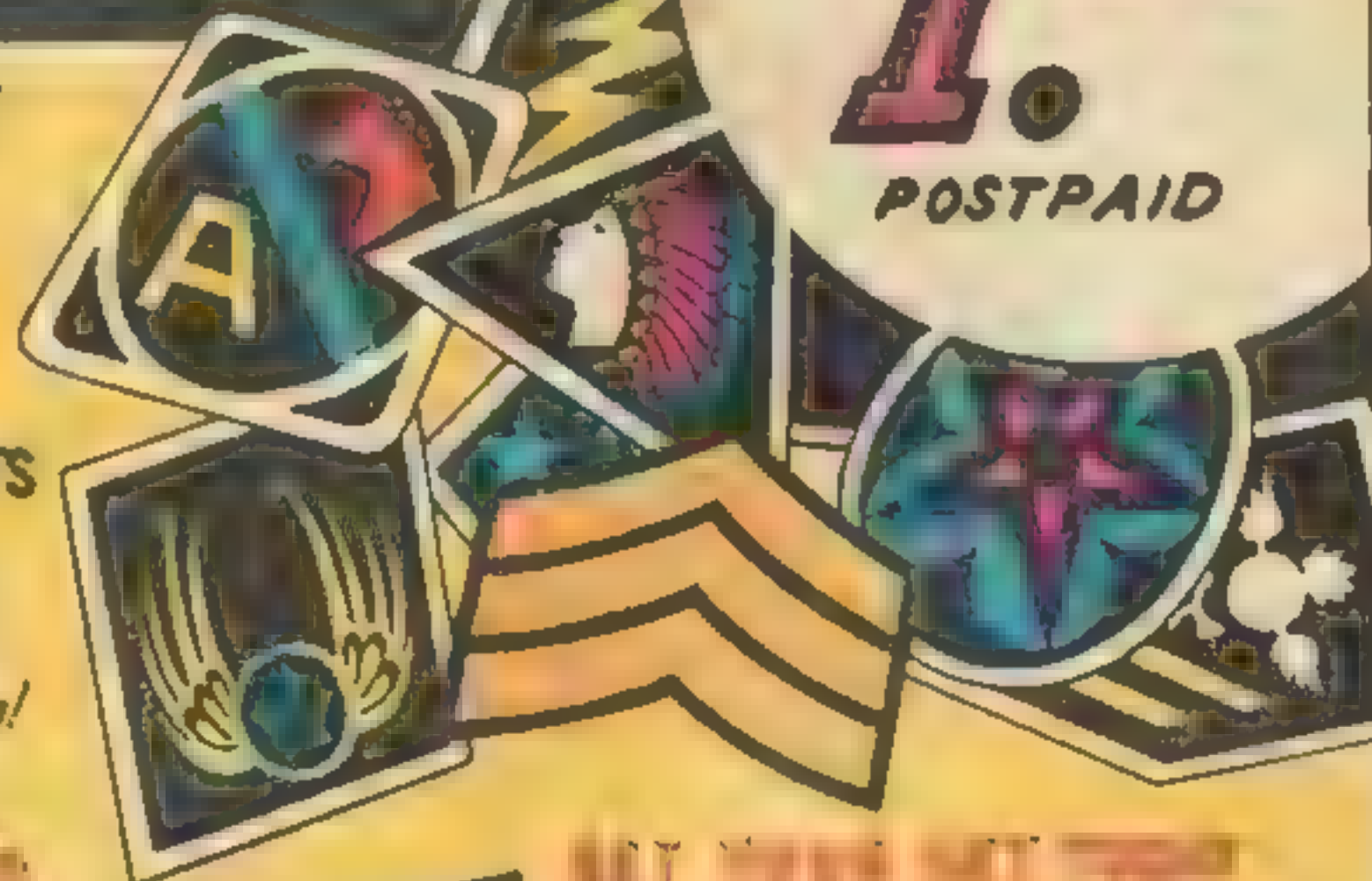
THIS WONDERFUL SET
includes

40 ALL DIFFERENT
 ☆ Medals ☆ Collar Insignias ☆ Q Bars
 ☆ Shoulder Emblems ☆ Ratings
 ☆ Ribbons ☆ Chevrons, etc.

*You can wear them... mount them... trade them!
 They're exciting... interesting... historical!*

**WANT AND FAST BEGINNING
 COLLECTORS ITEM!**

We guarantee this to be the greatest collection of genuine Army, Navy and Marine insignias ever to be offered at this unbelievably low price. These medals and insignias were actually made for, and worn by the members our fighting Armed Forces during World War II!



ONLY
\$1.75
POSTPAID

MAIL TODAY!

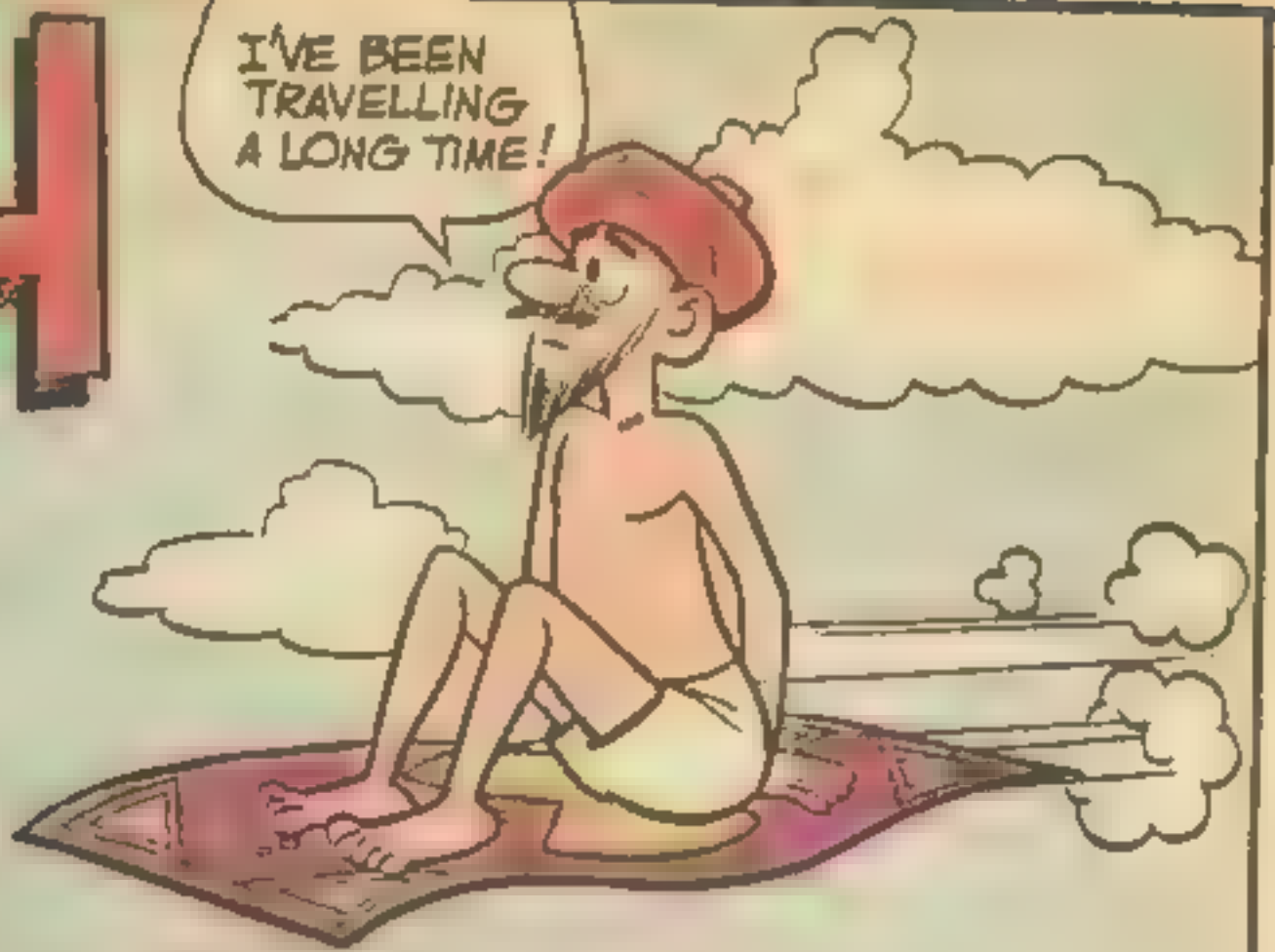
INSIGNIAS I- 706
 P.O. BOX 397- ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N.Y.
 RUSH ME (CHECK THE QUANTITY YOU WISH)
 1 set for ONLY 1.75 ☐ 2 sets for ONLY 3.25 ☐
 3 sets for ONLY 5.50 ☐
 SATISFACTION GUARANTEED. NO C.O.D.'S
 Please print information below:
 NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 CANADIAN & FOREIGN ADD 25¢ PER SET INT'L MONEY ORDER



MOOLAH

the MYSTIC

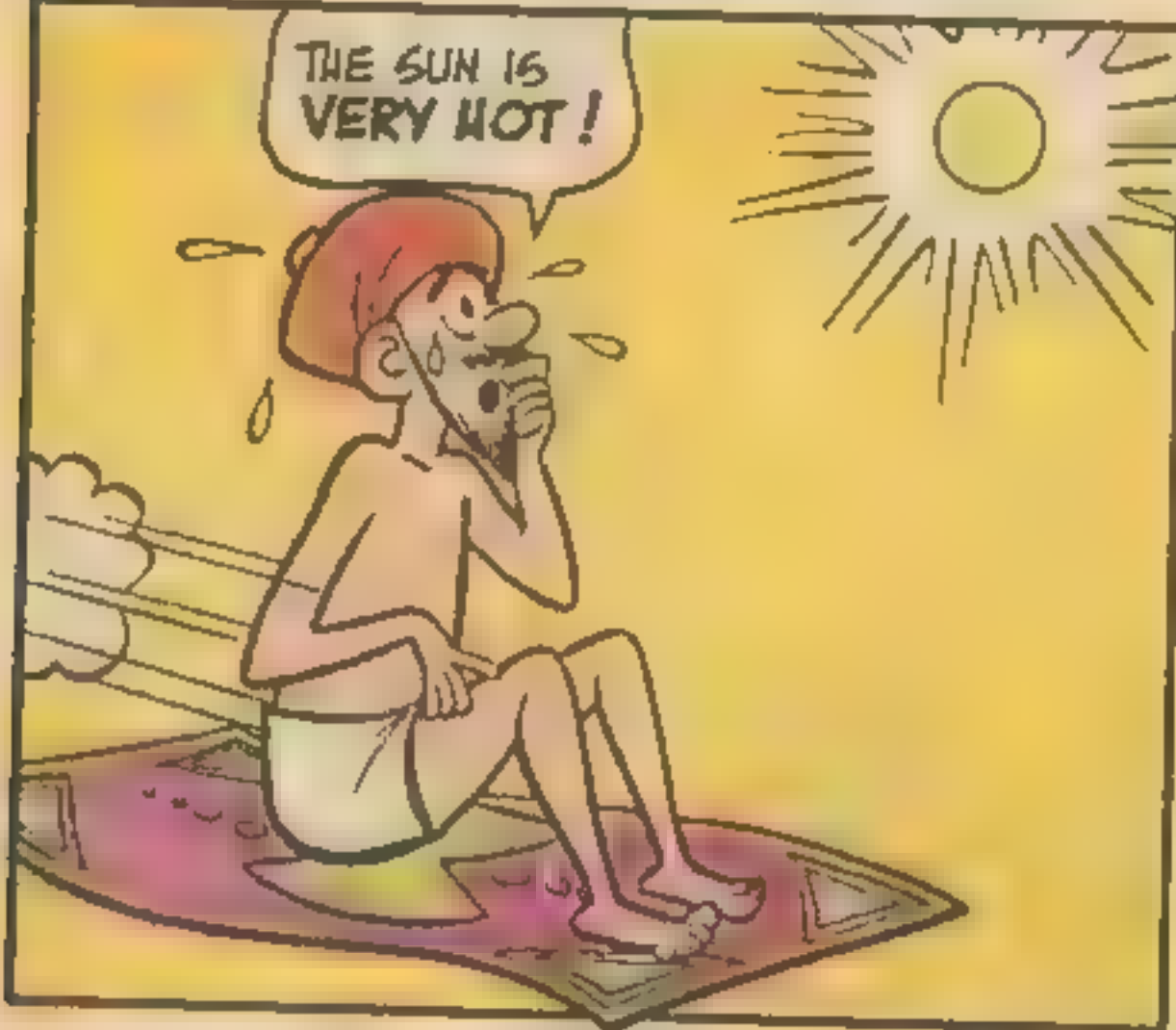
I'VE BEEN
TRAVELLING
A LONG TIME!



B-624

WENDY
BOOTH

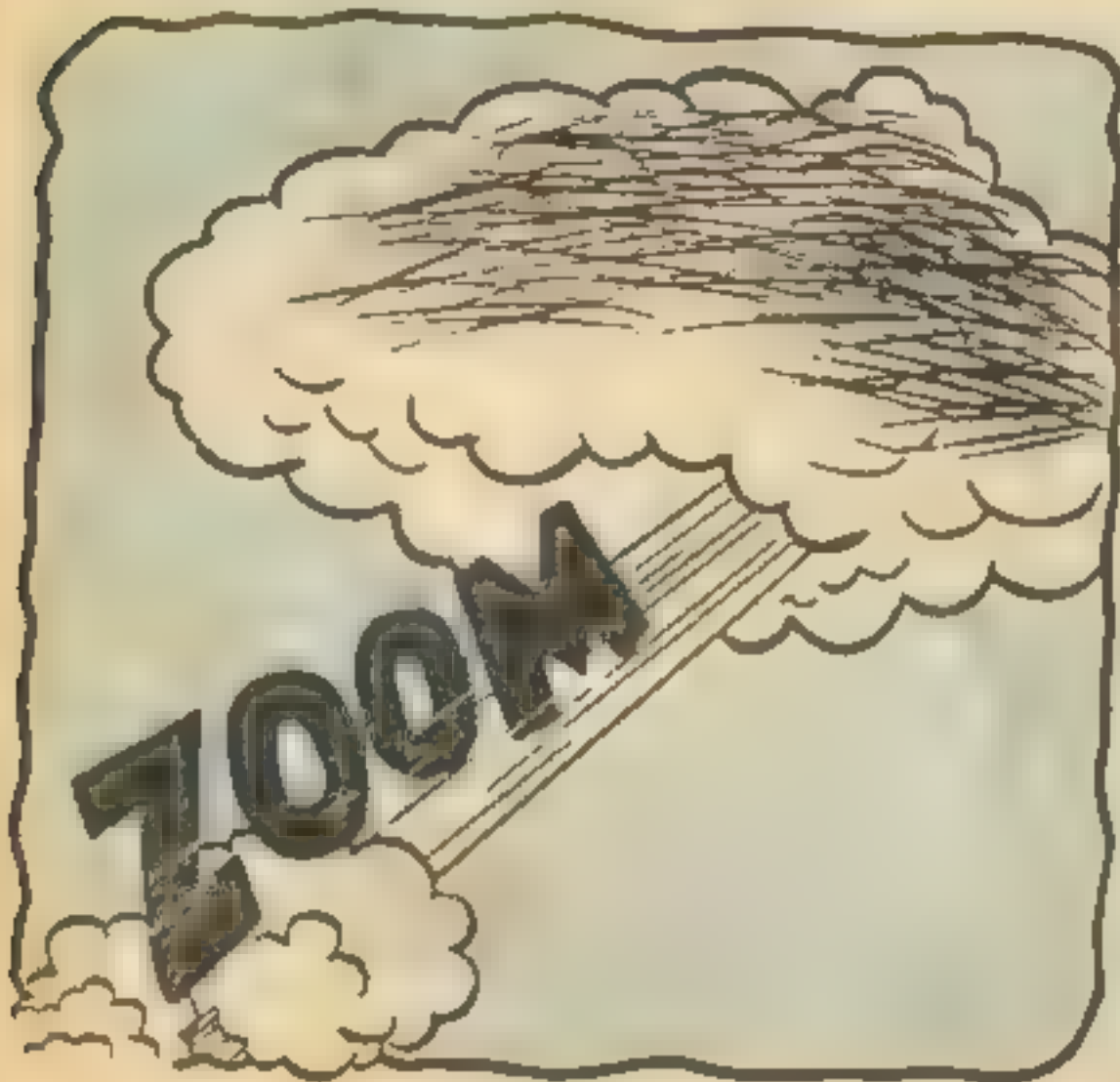
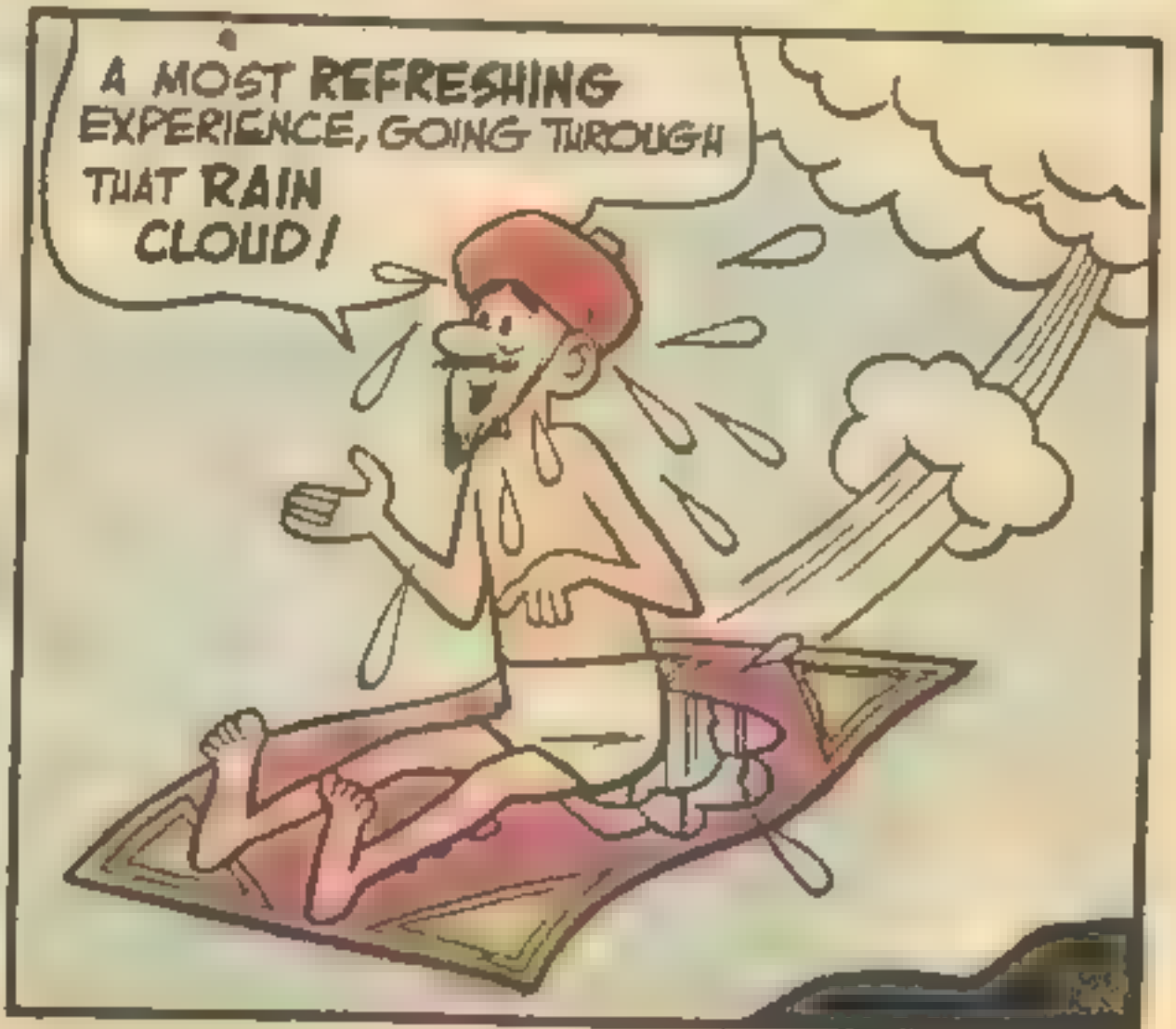
THE SUN IS
VERY HOT!



UHM - WHAT
AN IDEA!



A MOST REFRESHING
EXPERIENCE, GOING THROUGH
THAT RAIN
CLOUD!



SO YOU WANT TO BE A CARTOONIST?

by **JOE KUBER**

K-316

During my years as a professional cartoonist, I have been approached by many people (in addition to receiving hundreds of letters) who want more than anything else to become a **CARTOONIST** for **COMIC MAGAZINES**. Many of the letters included sketches or samples from these aspirants along with inquiries concerning **TYPE OF PAPER** to be used, **PAGE SIZE**, **PENS**, **INK**, etc. Of course, without this rudimentary knowledge, any attempt at creating a cartoon-drawing becomes extremely difficult and frustrating. In response, this page will describe some of the basic materials and information as applied to the comic industry in general.

PAPER & SIZE

Original art work is very rarely done "same size" as shown in printed form. The original drawing should be **HALF AGAIN** or **TWICE** the size of the reduced copy. **10" x 15"** (border-size) is the dimension used by our artists.

Paper should be **2-PLY**, which is similar to a **LIGHT CARDBOARD**. Texture of paper can be **KID FINISH** (rough) or **PLATE FINISH** (smooth).

PENCILS

Preliminary sketches are done with a **#2** or **#3** pencil (lead). This enables you to erase for corrections without difficulty. **PENCIL DRAWINGS** are merely the first step toward a completed illustration.

ERASERS

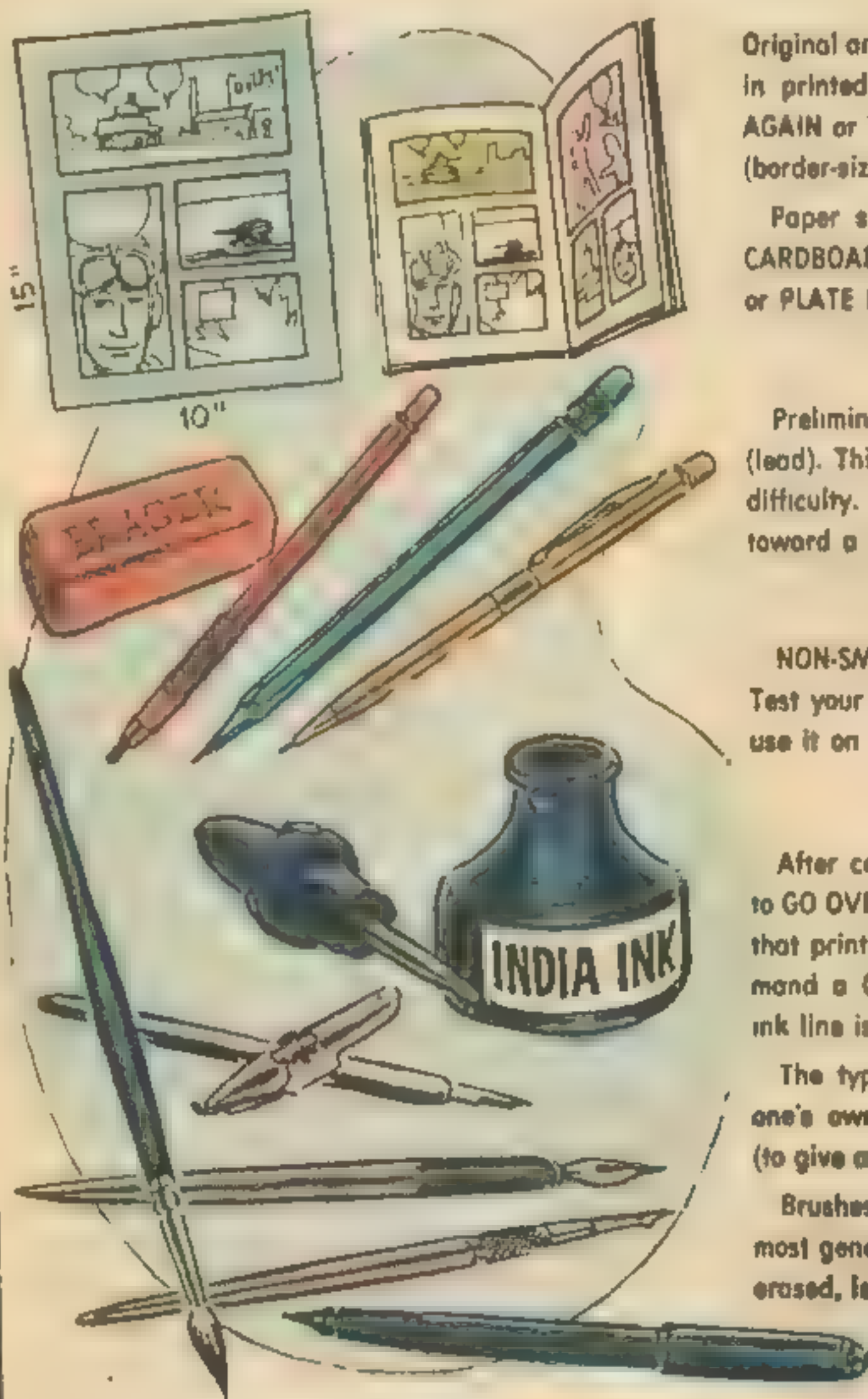
NON-SMEARING is the desired quality in an eraser. Test your eraser on a piece of scrap paper **BEFORE** you use it on a drawing.

PEN, BRUSHES, INK

After completing your pencil **DRAWING**, it is essential to **GO OVER** the illustration with **INDIA INK**. The reason is that printing processes used to produce comic books demand a **CLEAN, SHARP, BLACK, LINEAR** drawing. If an ink line is **TOO GREY**, it may not reproduce.

The types of **PENS** and **BRUSHES** vary, depending on one's own personal inclination. Pens may be **FLEXIBLE** (to give a thick and thin line) or **STIFF**.

Brushes will vary in size (**#3** water-color sable brush is most generally used). After "inking", the pencil sketch is erased, leaving only the pen-brush-ink illustration.



These are the **PRIMARY ESSENTIALS** concerning material and information needed to begin to learn about cartooning. Of course, the **FIRST** prerequisites are: **A STRONG DESIRE**; **CONSTANT PRACTICE**; **STUDY OF ART IN GENERAL**, **COMPOSITION** and **FIGURE-DRAWING** in particular.

There are **NO SHORTCUTS**. Don't let your first attempts frustrate you—every professional cartoonist started in the **SAME MANNER**, as you are beginning right now.

Remember that all the combined talents of National Periodical Publications will try to encourage your efforts as much as possible—but it's really up to **YOU!** That is, if **YOU WANT TO BE A CARTOONIST!**

DARK AS DEATH

HOW MANY GRAVES HAVE I DUG? 100? 200? ONE DAY, SOMEBODY WILL BE DIGGING ONE FOR ME!

THE MORBID DREAD OF BEING ENCLOSED PERMANENTLY GNAWS AT HIS BRAIN UNTIL IT EXPLODES IN A SEVERE CASE OF CLAUSTROPHOBIA. HE DARES NOT RIDE A SUBWAY, TRUDGES ENDLESS STEPS RATHER THAN USE AN ELEVATOR...

ART: **BERNIE WRIGHTSON**
STORY: **AL CASE**

B-422-1

EVEN THE SOFT FOLDS OF NIGHT ENVELOPING HIM IN BLACKNESS REMINDS HIM FEARFULLY OF THE SWEET, SOFT SOIL FALLING ON HIM IN HIS GRAVE...

UNTIL THAT FATEFUL DAY WHEN HIS WEAKENED, WRACKED BODY, UNABLE TO OVERCOME A MINOR COLD, SUCCUMBS TO PNEUMONIA...

OH, FOR THE LOVE OF HEAVEN, IF I COULD ONLY SLEEP... SO EXHAUSTED... BUT SO AFRAID...

HIS EYES ARE OPENING... HE'S RESPONDING TO TREATMENT... HE'LL LIVE, NURSE! HE'LL LIVE!

BUT, TO THE PATIENT, THE ENCLOSURE HAS ANOTHER MEANING AS HE FRANTICALLY CLAWS THE PLASTIC COVERING...

DON'T CLOSE ME IN! DON'T BURY ME! LET ME OUT OF HERE!

QUICKLY, NURSE! GET AN ORDERLY!

I'M FREE-- FREE! I'VE ESCAPED FROM THE GRAVE!

PSYCHIATRIC WARD

THE END

NEW RALEIGH CHOPPER® PUTS 'EM ALL DOWN!!!



Anybody want to drag?

Blast off on your new Chopper and you're practically peeling rubber!

Chopper puts you way out front for 1970 – because the 1970 Chopper's way out front. With three options for its short-thrust Split-T-Bar power console . . . 3-speed, 5-speed, and a sensational 10-speed super-snarling rig with double-stick shift and special third shift – that provides super-tension to "lock you in" at any speed!!

Super styling, too! Just take a long, loving look at the racy lines of the L-bucket Dragster Saddle and new racer-height vinyl-padded roll bar. You're years ahead of the pack with Chopper!! This year there's even a girls' Chopper! See and test drive the 1970 Chopper at your Raleigh dealer. Or send this coupon with 10¢ today!



Made in England . . .
serviced throughout
America . . .
guaranteed
around the world.

Send a full-color catalog. My 10¢ is enclosed.

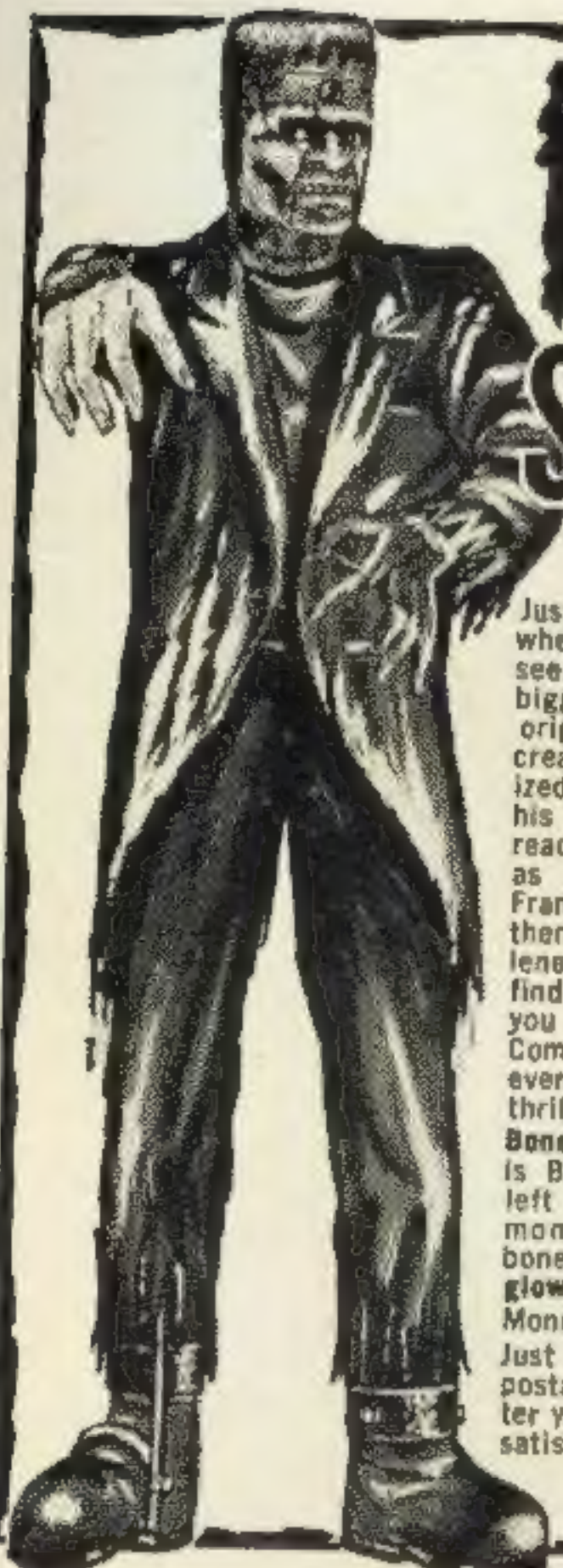
NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

RALEIGH

Raleigh Industries of America, Inc.,
1168 Commonwealth Avenue,
Boston, Mass. 02134



MONSTER

S-I-Z-E MONSTERS

7 FEET TALL

In Authentic Colors With GLOW in the DARK EYES

ONLY \$1.00
TEN DAY FREE TRIAL

Just imagine your friends shock when they walk into your room and see the "Monster" reaching out—bigger than life-Frankenstein, the original man-made monster, that creation of evil genius that terrorized the world. A giant 7 feet tall, his eyes glow eerily as his hand reaches out—as awful and sinister as the wildest nightmare. Yes—Frankenstein is 7 feet tall, in authentic colors on durable polyethylene, and so lifelike you'll probably find yourself talking to him. Won't you be surprised if he answers? Comes complete with eyes that glow even in the pitch dark for a special thrilling chill.

Boney the Skeleton. And then there is Boney—stark scary with nothing left but his bare bones. A 7 foot monster out of the grave—his bones white, his eyes staring—even glowing in the dark.

Money Back Guarantee. Just send \$1.00 plus 25c to cover postage and handling for each monster you want. Your money back if not satisfactorily horrified.



Honor House Dept. 86MR66
Lynbrook, N.Y. 11563

Rush me my 7 foot tall glow in the dark monsters. Send me ☐ Frankenstein ☐ Boney the Skeleton

I enclose \$1 plus 25c for postage and handling for each. If I don't get shivers of delight, I can return my purchase within 10 days and you will refund the full purchase price.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
New York State Residents please add 5% sales tax.



8 MM MOTION PICTURE PROJECTOR

COLOR OR BLACK & WHITE

\$6.98
ONLY Complete

FREE

NEW THRILLING SENSATION!

ADDS 3-D STEREO EFFECT

Makes People Look So Full and Real, You'll Feel You Can Reach Out and Touch Them

Just put on the "Miracle Specs" and you achieve a thrilling new experience. You see—not the old flat pictures you've seen for years—but life-like round images so real you "know" you could reach out to touch and feel them. One pair comes with each projector. Additional pairs are \$2.98 each.

We Need To Miss Out On the Fun of Private Movies Now at This Low Price

Here is a projector which, though precision-engineered and sturdily built for long use, is so reasonably-priced that everyone can now enjoy the thrills of showing home movies or standard 8 mm commercial movies. And it's so easy to operate that even a child can learn to use it quickly. Its double lens system and smooth operation give amazing performance. And—because it so compact, you can take it with you anywhere and show your home movies to friends or relatives. (It comes in its own carrying case with handle. Closes completely for easy portability.) No need to unwind electric cord and hunt for an outlet either—because it has no cord. The batteries (available anywhere) are completely stored in the base—and they're ready at the flip of a switch. This quick-focusing automatic Projector shows 8mm color or black-and-white film. If you wish to stop it at a particular frame, you can do so. Speed control lets you speed up film or slow down the action for enjoyment of every detail. (Batteries not included).

Try It For 10 Days On Our Money-Back Guarantee! So sure are we that you will be delighted with this versatile Projector, that we invite you to try it for 10 days and then, if you don't agree that it's a wonderful buy, return it to us and we'll refund the purchase price—with no questions asked. Don't Delay—Send Your Order Now!

N.Y. State Residents Please Add 5% Sales Tax.

FEATURES

- Projects color or black and white
- Complete with screen
- Guaranteed
- Sturdy construction for long life
- Speed control for fast or slow motion

10 DAY TRIAL FREE

HONOR HOUSE PRODUCTS
Dept. 86NP66
Lynbrook, N.Y. 11563

- ☐ I enclose \$6.98 (please add 75c shipping charges).
- ☐ Send COD. I enclose \$1 deposit and will pay postman \$5.98 balance plus postage and COD handling charges on delivery.
- ☐ Send me Stereo Specs @ \$2.98 each.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
ZIP _____

20 COURSE HOME STUDY PROGRAM

KARATE JIU JITSU

JUDO, BOXING, SAVATE,

Isometric Muscle Building, Endurance, Stunts, etc.

Only \$1.00



Here is what you get!

- 20 best KARATE Blows and Chops
- SAVATE French foot fighting
- Nerve center anatomy chart
- JUDO throws, Jiu Jitsu holds
- Isometric muscle building course
- Endurance Exercises and lots more

FREE Karate Practice and Nerve Center Chart

Satisfaction guaranteed or money back. Send just \$1.00 plus 25c for postage and handling to:
GUARANTEED DISTRIBUTORS DEPT. 86KR66
LYNBROOK, N.Y. 11563

An Hilarious Optical Illusion



X-RAY SPECS
\$1.00 ONLY

Scientific optical principle really works. Imagine—you put on the "X-Ray" Specs and hold your hand in front of you. You seem to be able to look right through the flesh and see the bones underneath. Look at your friend. Is that really his body you "see" under his clothes? Loads of laughs and fun at parties. Send only \$1 plus 25c shipping charges.

Money Back Guarantee

HONOR HOUSE PRODUCTS CORP.
Lynbrook, N.Y. Dept. 86XR66

Challenge any kid to a race on The Hot Wheels® Rod Runner.™



The Rod Runner unit looks like a racing stick shift. But it actually **powers** your Hot Wheels across the finish line. **Shift.** They're off. Side by side. You control each lap with a special speed control knob. Careful how you set it. Too much and you could wipe out. Not enough and you might get beat. Here they come. Around the big double-eight track and into the Rod Runner. **Shift.** Your car is out in front. Takes real skill to win.

Just like real racing. Race with Mattel's new Dual-Lane Rod Runner Race set or Rod Runner Speedway set. And race for real.



© 1970 Mattel, Inc.
(HOT WHEELS is a registered U.S.
Trademark for its TOY CARS.)